

VIDEO GAMES
'Hyrule Warriors'
is fast-paced fun
despite glitches
Page 16



WAR/MILITARY
US-funded Afghan
C-27s scrapped for
two pennies a pound
Page 3

NFL
Colts top Texans
in struggle for
AFC South lead
Back page



Ebola outbreak: Mathematical models show ominous numbers » **Page 8**

STARS AND STRIPES®

Volume 73, No. 126A

© SS 2014

MIDEAST EDITION

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2014

stripes.com

Free to Deployed Areas



2014 NOBEL PEACE PRIZE

'The true winners today are the world's children'

Advocates share award for risking lives to advance children's rights

Page 8



Malala
Yousafzai

Kailash
Satyarthi

AP photos

WAR ON TERRORISM

Militants closing on big victory

By ERIN CUNNINGHAM
The Washington Post

BAGHDAD — Islamic State militants are threatening to overrun a key province in western Iraq in what would be a major victory for the jihadists and an embarrassing setback for the U.S.-led coalition targeting the group.

A win for the Islamic State in Anbar province would give the militants control of one of the country's most important dams and several large army installations, potentially adding to their abundant stockpile of weapons. It would also allow them to establish a supply line from Syria

SEE MILITANTS ON PAGE 5

Speculation swirls around Kim Jong Un

By PAUL ALEXANDER
AND ASHLEY ROWLAND
Stars and Stripes

North Korean leader Kim Jong Un reportedly was a no-show Friday at one of the country's biggest annual events, further fueling speculation that he is seriously ill or no longer in power.

Kim, who took over the reins of the reclusive communist country nearly three years ago following the death of his father Kim Jong Il, was last seen in public Sept. 3. This is the longest period that he has been out of the public eye, and includes his absence from a national parliament meeting Sept. 25 that he usually attends.

SEE KIM ON PAGE 7



Kim

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"My crystal ball is painted a deep black. It's like tracking a hurricane."

— Martin Meltzer, a Centers for Disease Control and Prevention researcher who models epidemics, discussing the Ebola crisis

See story on Page 8

TOP CLICKS ON STRIPES.COM

The most popular stories on our website:

1. US-funded Afghan C-27s scrapped for 6 cents per pound
2. Destroying a \$30,000 Islamic State pickup truck can cost US \$500,000
3. North Korean leader Kim Jong Un appears to show at major event
4. USS Vandegrift's captain relieved of command amid misconduct allegations
5. Navy battling rhino beetles infestation at Hawaii base

COMING SOON



Shifting gears
Paris auto show

TODAY IN STRIPES

American Roundup	14
Business	21
Comics	23
Crossword	23
Health & Fitness	17
Letters/Opinion	12-13
Lifestyle	15
Sports	24-32
Video Games	16
Weather	21

MILITARY

Covert clientele at CIA Starbucks

By EMILY WAX-THIBODEAUX
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — The new supervisor thought his idea was innocent enough. He wanted the baristas to write the names of customers on their cups to speed up lines and ease confusion, just like other Starbucks do around the world.

But these aren't just any customers. They are regulars at the CIA Starbucks.

"They could use the alias 'Polly-O string cheese' for all I care," said a food services supervisor at the Central Intelligence Agency, asking that his identity remain unpublished for security reasons. "But giving any name at all was making people — you know, the undercover agents — feel very uncomfortable. It just didn't work for this location."

This purveyor of skinny lattes and double cappuccinos is deep inside the agency's forested compound in Langley, Va.

Welcome to the "Stealthy Starbucks," as a few officers affectionately call it. Or "Store Number 1," as the receipts cryptically say.

The baristas go through rigorous interviews and background checks and need to be escorted by agency "minders" to leave their work area. There are no frequent-customer award cards, because officials fear the data stored on the cards could be mined by marketers and fall into the wrong hands, outing secret agents.

It is one of the busiest Starbucks in the country, with a captive caffeine-craving audience of thousands of analysts and agents, economists and engineers, geographers and cartographers working on gathering intelligence and launching covert operations inside some of the most vexing and violent places around the world.

"Obviously," one officer said, "we are caffeine-addicted personality types."

Because the campus is a highly secured island, few people leave for coffee, and the

lines, both in the morning and midafternoon, can stretch down the hallway. According to agency lore, one senior official, annoyed by the amount of time employees were wasting, was known to approach someone at the back of the line and whisper, "What have you done for your country today?"

This coffee shop looks pretty much like any other Starbucks, with bland wood-

'Giving any name at all was making people — you know, the undercover agents — feel very uncomfortable. It just didn't work for this location.'

CIA Starbucks food services supervisor
anonymous

for employees who work under high pressure often in windowless offices and can't fiddle with their smartphones during downtime. For security reasons, they have to leave them in their cars.

Amid pretty posters for Kenyan beans and pumpkin spice lattes, nestled in the corner where leather armchairs form a cozy nook, the supervisor said he often hears customers practicing foreign languages, such as German or Arabic.

The shop is also the site of many job interviews for agents looking to move within the CIA, such as from a counterterrorism post to a nuclear nonproliferation gig.

"Coffee goes well with those conversations," one officer said.

The chief of the team that helped find Osama bin Laden, for instance, recruited a key deputy for the effort at the Starbucks, said another officer, who could not be named.

One female agent said she occasionally runs into old high school and college friends in line at Starbucks. Until then, they didn't know they worked together. Such surprise reunions are not uncommon. Working at the agency is not something you email or write Facebook posts about, she said.

The nine baristas who work here are frequently briefed about security risks.

"We say if someone is really interested in where they work and asks too many questions, then they need to tell us," the supervisor said.

A female barista who commutes from the District of Columbia before sunrise said she initially applied to work for a catering company that services federal buildings in the region, not knowing where she might be assigned. She said she underwent extensive vetting "that was more than just a credit check."

The woman, 27, was offered a job and told that she would be working in food services in Langley. On her first morning of work, she recalled, she put a location in her GPS and nothing came up. So she called the person who had hired her and got an explanation of the address.

"Before I knew it, I realized I was now working for the Starbucks at the CIA," she said.

Unfortunately, she can't boast about where she works at parties. "The most I can say to friends is that I work in a federal building," she said.

She said she has come to recognize people's faces and their drinks. "There's caramel-macchiato guy" and "the iced white mocha woman," she said.

"But I have no idea what they do," she added, fastening her green Starbucks apron and adjusting her matching cap. "I just know they need coffee — a lot of it."

Navy captain relieved for alleged misconduct

By TONY PERRY
Los Angeles Times

SAN DIEGO — The captain of a San Diego-based Navy ship now deployed off Central and South America has been relieved of command amid an investigation into allegations of misconduct, the Navy announced Thursday.

Cmdr. Luis Alva was relieved as commander of the frigate USS Vandegrift because the commander of destroyer Squadron 23, Capt. Paul Hogue, lost confidence

in his ability to command, the Navy said.

Although the Navy declined to provide details of Alva's alleged misconduct, Navy Times reported that on Monday, Alva grabbed the buttocks of the wife of a chief petty officer in a bar in Panama City.

The Vandegrift deployed in May on a multinational drug interdiction mission.

Navy Times quoted a report of the alleged incident: "Over the course of the evening, the

commanding officer became intoxicated and at some point he is alleged to have assaulted the victim by shoving/pushing in the face."

Alva is a 1996 graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy and has served aboard several combat ships. He will be temporarily assigned to the squadron staff, the Navy said.

In 2012, another Vandegrift commander was relieved of duty due to a drinking incident during a port call to Vladivostok, Russia.



Cmdr. Luis Alva

Stay connected to
your military community,
no matter how far you are from home.

News, information and more — 24/7

stripes.com STARS AND STRIPES



WAR/MILITARY

Afghan C-27s turned to \$32,000 of scrap

US-funded planes scrapped for 6 cents per pound

By TRAVIS J. TRITTEN
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — Most of the C-27 transport aircraft given to the Afghanistan military as part of a failed \$486 million Defense Department program were locally scrapped for just \$32,000, federal auditors said Thursday.

The U.S. Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction, or SIGAR, sent letters to the Pentagon requesting all documents related to the scrapping, reasons why it did not pursue resale, and why it did not seek a refund from the manufacturer of the Italian-made C-27s, also known as G222s, which were grounded last year following chronic maintenance issues.

"It has come to my attention that the 16 G222s at Kabul were recently towed to the far side of the airport and scrapped by the Defense Logistics Agency," SIGAR head John Sopko wrote in the Oct. 3 letters. "I was also informed that an Afghan construction company paid approximately 6 cents a pound for the scrapped planes, which came to a total of \$32,000."

The DOD ended the C-27 program in March 2013 after the Afghans could not maintain the aircraft or find spare parts. SIGAR launched an investigation in December.

Sopko said he had personally seen the 16 aircraft on the tarmac at Kabul International Airport and was told that the remaining four were taken to Ramstein Air Base in Germany during the investigation.

Since then, the DOD appears



to have destroyed the Kabul-based C-27s.

The Pentagon should explain why alternatives to scrapping the aircraft were not pursued, such as flying the planes out of Afghanistan and reselling them abroad, Sopko said.

"What efforts were made to return the aircraft to the manufacturer or to obtain a refund?" he wrote.

The watchdog also wants to know whether any of the parts remain intact and may be recoverable.

"I am concerned that the officials responsible for planning and executing the scrapping of the planes may not have considered other possible alternatives in order to salvage taxpayer dollars," he wrote.

The DOD and Air Force have until Oct. 17 to respond to SIGAR, according to the letters.

SIGAR was created to oversee about \$104 billion the U.S. has funneled into rebuilding Afghanistan in the 13-year war with the Taliban and al-Qaida and has pointed to hundreds of millions in other wasteful spending in the past. In July, the auditor questioned DOD plans to begin sending C-130s, a similar type of transport aircraft, to the Afghan Air Force, saying there was little evidence the aircraft are needed and last year urged the department to stop supplying the Afghans Russian-made helicopters.

tritten.travis@stripes.com
Twitter: @Travis_Tritten



Photos courtesy of SIGAR

Top: Shredded G222 scrap is shown in Kabul, Afghanistan, in August. **Above:** Special Inspector General John Sopko inspects the abandoned G222 fleet at Kabul International Airport in 2013.

Bridge joining Bahrain base and port hailed as time-saver

By HENDRICK SIMOES
Stars and Stripes

MANAMA, Bahrain — A much-anticipated bridge connecting the main base of the Naval Support Activity here to its port facility across a major roadway opened earlier this month.

There was little fanfare for the opening of the \$8 million, 400-foot-long tied-arch suspension bridge, however, it's being hailed as a vital piece of infrastructure for the base.

Sailors said they had been counting the days until the bridge opened.

"It makes for easy access to base facilities for daily use," said Chief Petty Officer Shawn Flynn, who works on the port side of the base known as NSA-2. He and another sailor used the bridge at lunch time Thursday to take care of errands on the main base, which has many of the support facilities such as medical, administration and the Navy Exchange.

"It is absolutely a quality-of-life improvement that the sailors have been wanting," said Capt. David Meron, base commander. He said it also improves safety and security by taking buses, vehicles and bicycles off Bahrain's busy roads.

The bridge reduces the travel time between both facilities from about 30 minutes to five minutes. Before the bridge opened, personnel had to go off base and travel through the city to reach the other facility.

Personnel are allowed to walk, bike and use golf carts and authorized government vehicles to cross the bridge.

Officials said the bridge will allow the base to reduce its vehicle fleet by 10 percent, which will save more than \$500,000 annually. And the cancellation of the shuttle bus contract between both facilities will result in an additional \$130,000 in savings per year.

Meron called the bridge "a huge step forward." It connects the main base not



STEVEN SMITH/Courtesy of the U.S. Navy

The new bridge connecting the main base of the Naval Support Activity in Bahrain to its port facility is now open.

only to U.S. 5th Fleet's minesweepers and coastal patrol ships along the waterfront, but also to 77 acres of leased land, where the Navy has several projects under construction. These include barracks to house more than 500 sailors that is slated to open next year.

NSA Bahrain, home to the U.S. 5th Fleet, has about 8,200 U.S. personnel and is growing.

simoeshendrick@stripes.com
Twitter: @hendricksimoes

Army completes probe of Bergdahl disappearance

From wire reports

SAN ANTONIO — The Army said Thursday it has completed an investigation into Army Sgt. Bowe Bergdahl's disappearance from a base in Afghanistan five years ago.

The report by Brig. Gen. Kenneth Dahl is being reviewed by commanders, but is not being released, Army spokesman Wayne Hall said.

Hall said the review process likely would be lengthy, and that "the Army's priority is ensuring that our process is thorough, factually accurate, impartial, and legally correct."

Now assigned to U.S. Army North at Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston, Bergdahl left an American outpost in the summer of 2009 and fell into the hands of the Taliban. Dahl looked into his actions prior to his disappearance, while the Army said it found no evidence that he helped the enemy while a captive.

WAR ON TERRORISM

Iraq decentralizing to stem onslaught

By SAMEER N. YACOB
AND VIVIAN SALAMA
The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — To get a home or an office built in the central Iraqi province of Salahuddin, contractors have usually had to pay hefty bribes to corrupt officials in Baghdad to clear away the red tape.

It was just one example of the heavy hand that the central government holds over even the smallest details of life in Iraq's provinces. That hand was often corrupt as well. Around 70 percent of the projects that the government committed to fund in Salahuddin existed only on paper, according to Najih al-Mizan, a Sunni lawmaker from the province.

"Some of the funds allocated to the province go missing in Baghdad," said al-Mizan.

The combination of interference and neglect from the Shiite-led government in Baghdad was one reason why many among the predominantly Sunni population of Salahuddin saw the Islamic State group has a possible alternative when its extremist fighters swept into the province the past month, al-Mizan said. People there were so fed up with Baghdad, they were desperate for something new.

Now, Iraq's government, beleaguered by the Sunni militant onslaught over much of the country, is making a concerted effort to empower local and provincial

governments. The aim is in part to draw Sunni support away from the extremists. But it is also a calculation that it is better to have a controlled decentralization of power than to see the country outright fall apart into Sunni, Shiite and Kurdish fragments, as many fear.

"We have to move away from governing from the center, which is Baghdad ... that's important for us."

Haider al-Abadi
Iraq's prime minister

ing outlying regions to fend for themselves.

Provinces that are home to the Sunni minority have long felt the brunt of discrimination from Shiite authorities in Baghdad, who the Sunnis say would often either neglect their needs or exploit them through corruption. But Shiite



NABIL AL-JURANI/AP

Basra residents chant during a demonstration in front of the Basra provincial headquarters on Sept. 27 supporting the creation of a local Basra region.

provinces were neglected as well, particularly those dominated by Shiite parties not in favor in the capital.

The exclusion intensified feelings of resentment toward the government of then-Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki, even among one-time loyalists. That resentment finally led to al-Maliki's replacement last month.

The Islamic State group, which now holds territory stretching from northern Syria across Sunni regions of northern and western Iraq down to the edges of Baghdad, has intentionally sought to benefit from the Sunni resentments of Baghdad. Part of its core strategy has been to establish administration over the land that it controls to win over the population. The

group administers courts, cleans streets, fixes roads and even enforces traffic.

Haider al-Abadi, named Iraq's prime minister on Sept. 8, has made decentralization a paramount theme in his platform. He plans to give greater autonomy to provincial governments and construct a national guard in which recruits and leadership are conscripted from local populations.

"We have to move away from governing from the center, which is Baghdad, and having to decide all the details for the different governorates — that's important for us," al-Abadi said in a Sept. 17 interview with The Associated Press. "We want to have a real federal state according to the constitution" by giving provinces more power and involving them

more in the central government's decision-making for the whole of Iraq.

Decentralization has failed to take off in the past. In 2013, parliament revised a law on provincial powers to spread authorities, but the changes were never carried out.

The constitution itself — written under heavy U.S. influence after the 2003 fall of Saddam Hussein — has strong provisions for decentralization. It allows several provinces to vote to form a region together that would have a large degree of autonomy. That raises the possibility of a Sunni-dominated region in the center and a Shiite-dominated one in the south, similar to the existing semi-autonomous Kurdish region in the north.

Officials: Strikes on Khorasan terror cell no permanent solution

By KEN DILANIAN
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The barrage of U.S. cruise missiles aimed at a cell of al-Qaida militants in Syria last month failed to stop ongoing terror plots to blow up airplanes over Europe and the United States, American intelligence officials say.

The strikes on a facility near Aleppo killed only one or two key members of what is referred to as the Khorasan Group, officials said, because many of the militants had scattered amid news reports highlighting their activities.

Among those who survived is a French-born jihadist who fought in Afghanistan with a military prowess that is of great concern to U.S. intelligence officials. The group is believed to be continuing its plans to attack the West, officials say.

"The strikes were certainly effective in setting back the Khorasan Group, but no one thinks they were a permanent solution or a death blow to the threats that come from this cell," said Rep. Adam Schiff, a Calif. Democrat who serves on the House Intelligence Committee.

On Sept. 22, the U.S. fired 46 cruise missiles at eight locations to target the group. At the same time, American airstrikes struck targets associated with the Islamic State group in Syria.



EDUB NEWS NETWORK/AP

Syrian citizens check a damaged house they say was targeted by the coalition airstrikes in the village of Kfar Derian, a base for the al-Qaida-linked Nusra Front, a rival of the Islamic State group, between the northern province of Aleppo and Idlib, Syria.

One of the U.S. missiles went awry and killed a dozen civilians in the village of Kfar Derian, according to Mohammed Abu Omar, an activist in the northern province of Idlib. The U.S. military says it has not confirmed any civilian casualties.

The limited effectiveness of the attack on the Khorasan Group is partly the result of a hazy intelligence picture that also has been the air campaign against Islamic State targets in Syria and Iraq.

The U.S. lacks the networks of bases, spies and ground-based technology it had in place dur-

ing the height of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, officials say, or even the network of human sources it developed in Pakistan and Yemen.

The existence of the Khorasan Group became public only weeks before the airstrikes, but U.S. officials had been tracking it for up to two years. Officials said the group has a few dozen al-Qaida members, some of whom are long-sought militants of the fighting in Afghanistan and Pakistan. They are working closely with Syria's al-Qaida-linked Nusra Front, officials said.

Several current and former U.S.

officials spoke on condition of anonymity about the group because they were not authorized to discuss classified information.

Khorasan is a historical reference to a region that included parts of Iran and Afghanistan.

In public, U.S. officials have offered seemingly contradictory assessments of the attacks on the Khorasan Group.

Gen. Martin Dempsey, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said the strikes disrupted the group's plotting, but he did not know for how long. FBI Director James Comey said he believed the plots had not been disrupted and that the group remains a threat to the U.S. — an intelligence officials embraced Comey's view.

Unlike the Nusra Front, which is trying to topple Syrian President Bashar Assad, the Khorasan

Group is focused chiefly on carrying out an attack against the West, officials say. The group is said to have been trying to recruit Europeans and Americans whose passports allow them to board a U.S.-bound airliner with less scrutiny.

In addition, according to classified U.S. intelligence assessments, the Khorasan militants have been trying to make or obtain explosives that can be slipped past airport security. Among their sources, officials said, has been al-Qaida's Yemen affiliate, which has put bombs on airplanes, though the bombs failed to explode.

The fear is that the Khorasan militants will provide these sophisticated explosives to Western recruits who could sneak them onto U.S.-bound flights.

HELP IS ON THE WAY

We've been making loans of up to \$10,000 to active duty military for over 64 years.



Click Today...Cash Today® www.omnimilitaryloans.com

"We love to say yes"®

WAR ON TERRORISM

Militants: Control of Anbar province important

FROM FRONT PAGE

almost to Baghdad, and give them a valuable position from which to launch attacks on the Iraqi capital.

The Islamic State's offensive in Anbar has received less attention than its assault on the Syrian border city of Kobani, which has played out in view of news photographers standing on hills in nearby Turkey.

But in recent weeks, Islamic State fighters have systematically invaded towns and villages in Anbar, besieged army posts and police stations, and mounted attacks on Iraqi troops in Ramadi, the provincial capital.

The Islamic State group had already secured a major foothold in Anbar province in January, when it seized the city of Fallujah and parts of Ramadi. It pushed farther into the province in June. Still, Iraq's government was able to maintain small pockets of authority in the majority-Sunni region.

Iraqi forces have suffered numerous reverses in the latest jihadist offensive, including the loss of two army bases. U.S. warplanes and attack helicopters have hit Islamic State targets and provided support to Iraqi troops fighting in Anbar. The U.S. air strikes helped fend off an assault last month on the town of Ramadi, part of the militants' drive to control Iraq's water supplies. But overall, the strikes have failed to curb the militants' momentum.

"If the Islamic State controls Anbar, they would be able to threaten serious targets in Baghdad," said an Iraqi security expert, Saeed al-Jayashi. "The government would lose the Haditha dam, and the security forces would have to retreat," he said. "There would be a bloodbath."

Anbar province — Iraq's largest — was the epicenter of the bloody Sunni insurgency against U.S. forces that raged after the invasion in 2003. In 2006, Anbar's numerous Sunni tribes decided to back the U.S.-supported government against Iraq's al-Qaida affiliate, in what later became known as the Sunni Awakening. The insurgency was crushed.

But in recent years, the sectarian policies of former Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki, a Shiite, alienated the Sunni tribes and their constituencies. The Islamic State group, which had been founded as an offshoot of al-Qaida in Iraq, fed off the Sunni discontent. At the same time, the jihadists improved their military prowess by fighting in the civil war in Syria. They have seized large chunks of Syria and Iraq.

Since the beginning of the U.S. campaign against the Islamic State group in August, U.S. warplanes and helicopters have struck more than 40 targets in Anbar province, according to data from the U.S. military's Central Command.

The Obama administration had expressed hope that Sunni



Al-Qaida fighters raise an al-Qaida flag in March as they patrol in a commandeered Iraqi military vehicle in Fallujah.

AP

Arab powers in the region, led by Saudi Arabia, would persuade the Anbar tribes to turn against the Islamic State and join Iraqi government forces or participate in a locally based national guard. But although al-Maliki left office early last month, there has been little indication that Arab influence, if indeed it is being used, has had much of an effect. At the same time, Sunni tribesmen have said they feel threatened by the Shiite militias that are participating in Iraq's fight against the Islamic State.

In talks this week with retired U.S. Gen. John Allen, the administration's coordinator of the international coalition against the Islamic State group, tribal leaders said "they will not confront the Islamic State while Shiite militias exist in Sunni areas," tribal chief Samil al-Muhammadi told the Saudi-owned London newspaper Al-Hayat.

Anbar province, a vast expanse of desert crisscrossed by truck routes leading to Jordan, Saudi Arabia and Syria, holds both strategic and symbolic significance for the Islamic State.

If the extremist group captures the territory, it could funnel weapons and fighters from areas it controls in Syria all the way to the western outskirts of Baghdad. Currently, that supply line is interrupted by government-held Haditha and Ramadi.

The militants would also extend their de facto border to just outside the Iraqi capital. "It will be a base for their movements. It would take a very long time to get it back," said Anbar's police chief, Ahmed Saddam al-Dulaimi.

The capture of Anbar would also be a psychological victory for the jihadists.

Anbar "is really the birthplace of ISIS' predecessor organization, al-Qaida in Iraq," said Jessica Lewis, research director at the Institute for the Study of War in Washington, using a common

name for the Islamic State group. "So taking the cities of Anbar province is quite important to ISIS."

Security officials in Anbar say the Islamic State group has been bolstering its fighting force in the province.

In the past few days, the militants have wrested control of the Anbar town of Hit on the Euphrates River, as well as the nearby town of Kubaisa.

Both are close to the Ayn al-Asad military base, one of Iraq's largest. It sends reinforcements

and supplies to troops defending the Haditha Dam just northwest of the camp.

According to a recent assessment by the Institute for the Study of War, the Islamic State has conducted a "sophisticated campaign" in Anbar in the past four weeks, which has enabled the group to control most of the territory from the Syrian border to Abu Ghraib in the western suburbs of Baghdad.

The militants have severed the Iraq army's supply lines, cut off troops' communications, and consolidated gains that would not be easily disrupted by an air campaign, the report said.

Perhaps most alarming is the jihadists' advance on Ramadi, 80 miles west of Baghdad.

Iraqi media outlets reported Monday that security forces had withdrawn from central Ramadi, a claim that Dulaimi, the police chief, later denied. But attacks over the past week have left the militants in control of new neighborhoods in the city.

Local officials have warned the central government that Ramadi may soon fall.

"All of the areas around Ramadi are controlled by the Islamic State," said Ahmed Abu Risha, a prominent tribal sheik who commands pro-government fighters in the area.

Abu Risha said his forces, who are lightly armed, have received no air support while fighting off the Islamic State.

"If Ramadi falls, all of Anbar

falls," he said. "Ramadi is the head. If you cut the head, the rest of the body will die, too."

One of the most important losses for the Iraqi security forces was the military camp at Saqlawiya. Islamic State fighters surrounded the base west of Fallujah last month.

Some of the soldiers there fled, while the jihadists are believed to have massacred many others, according to survivors. Between 300 and 500 soldiers were missing, they said.

The militants subsequently seized a military base at Albu Aytha, 50 miles from Baghdad.

"For days we begged for airstrikes and they never came," said a 38-year-old soldier who survived the onslaught at Saqlawiya, and gave his name only as Abu Ali, for fear of retribution.

Now, he says, he doesn't believe there is anything worth fighting for in Anbar.

"The leadership doesn't care about us, the people there [in Anbar] don't care about us. They called us Shia dogs," he said. "How can I fight for any of them after this?"

Jayashi, the analyst, said that Anbar residents needed to support the Iraqi security forces.

"Otherwise," he said, "we will lose all of western Iraq."

Washington Post staff writer Karen DeYoung in Washington and Post correspondent Mustafa Salim in Baghdad contributed to this report.

DO THE RIGHT THING

Report Fraud

Involving U.S. Reconstruction Dollars to SIGAR

www.sigar.mil

sigar.hotline@mail.mil

Afghanistan | 0700107300 (cell) | 318-237-3912 x7303 (DSN)

United States | +1-866-329-8893 (int'l line) | 94-312-664-0378 (DSN)

WAR ON TERRORSIM

UN: Massacre likely if Syrian town falls

The Associated Press

MURSIPTINAR, Turkey — The new U.N. envoy to Syria said Friday that at least 500 civilians remain trapped in the Syrian Kurdish border town of Kobani, warning they were likely to be “massacred” if it falls to the Islamic State group.

Staffan de Mistura’s warning came as the Islamic State group pushed into Kobani from the south and east, taking almost full control of the so-called “Kurdish security quarters” — an area where Kurdish militiamen maintain security buildings and where the police station, the municipality and other local government offices are located.

The onslaught by the militant group on Kobani began in mid-September. Activists say the fighting has already killed more than 500 people.

“The city is in danger,” said Farhad Shami, a Kurdish activist in Kobani reached by phone from Beirut. He said the Islamic State group was bringing in more reinforcements.

U.S.-led airstrikes against the

extremists appear to have failed to blunt their push on Kobani. According to statistics released by U.S. Central Command, few sites in Iraq and Syria have been hit by airstrikes more frequently than area around Kobani.

The Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said with the new advances toward the Kurdish security quarters in the eastern part of the town, the Islamic State group was now in control of 40 percent of Kobani.

The Observatory, which collects its information from a network of activists on the ground in Syria, said the U.S.-led coalition launched airstrikes east and south of Kobani overnight. It was not clear what they targeted.

The U.S. Central Command said in a statement on Thursday that it conducted nine airstrikes in Syria, six of them hitting south of Kobani and destroying two buildings held by the Islamic State group, a tank and a heavy machine gun, and one fighting position. Three airstrikes north of Kobani struck two small militant units and also destroyed two buildings occupied by the Islamic State group, the statement



Smoke rises following a U.S.-led coalition airstrike in Kobani, Syria, during fighting between Syrian Kurds and militants from the Islamic State group on Thursday.

said.

On Friday, Central Command reported another nine strikes in Syria, including nine in the area around Kobani. Friday, the militants shelled the town’s single border crossing with Turkey in efforts to capture it and cut off Kobani, a local Kurdish official and Syrian activists said.

The official, Idriss Nassan, said Islamic State fighters aim to seize the crossing in order to close the noose around the town’s Kurdish

defenders and prevent anyone from entering or leaving Kobani.

In Geneva, de Mistura said that a U.N. analysis of the situation on the ground shows that only a small portion of the town remains open for people to enter or flee Kobani. He said there were about 500 to 700 elderly people and other civilians still trapped there while 10,000 to 13,000 remain stuck in an area nearby, close to the border.

De Mistura invoked the geno-

cides in Rwanda in 1994 and in the Bosnian town of Srebrenica in July 1995 as he appealed to the world to prevent another catastrophe.

If the town falls to the Islamic State fighters, “we know what they are capable of doing,” said the Italian-Swedish diplomat, who was appointed to the U.N. post in July.

The civilians of Kobani “will be most likely massacred,” de Mistura said. “When there is an imminent threat to civilians, we cannot, we should not be silent.”

‘Conflicting objectives’ keep Turkey from joining fight against militants

By John Vandiver
Stars and Stripes

STUTTGART, Germany — As Turkish tank crews passively watch from a hillside while the Islamic State group lays siege to the Syrian town of Kobani — raising the prospect of black flags flying less than a mile from NATO territory — a frustrated West is asking: Why isn’t Turkey taking a more robust role to stop the militant juggernaut?

The reason, experts say, is clear: The strategic objectives of the U.S. and Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan are reversed. America’s top priority is to defeat the Islamic State. Turkey’s is to avoid empowering Kurdish separatists — some of the very people holding out inside Kobani. Turkey also wants Washington to expand its campaign from targeting the Islamic State to ousting Syrian President Bashar Hafez Assad from power.

ANALYSIS

“Kobani is a vivid illustration of disarray and conflicting objectives of this hastily assembled U.S.-led coalition,” said Fadi Hakura, an expert on Turkey with the London-based Chatham House. “The U.S. and Turkey have different threat perceptions.”

Erdogan sees Assad as the main cause of instability in Syria, he said. “At the same time, (Turkey does) not want to help or encourage Syrian Kurdish fighters who are closely linked to the PKK,” Hakura said,

referring to the Kurdistan Workers’ Party, which both Turkey and the United States also consider a terrorist organization.

The PKK has been fighting for self-determination for Turkey’s Kurdish minority for three decades. While Erdogan has said the Islamic State poses a danger to the region, he believes the PKK is a bigger threat to his own country.

“An aspect to all of this is ideology and religion, which we in the West have a hard time understanding,” said Marc Pierini, a former European Union ambassador to Turkey and scholar with the Carnegie Europe in Brussels. “ISIS is a Sunni insurgency and in religious terms, the Turkish government has a very strong Sunni base. They are never going to approve of the atrocities by ISIS, but there’s a built-in resistance to go after them.”

Critics argue that Ankara is being short-sighted in not seeing the Islamic State group as a clear and present danger to Turkish security.

Ankara has also been criticized for not doing enough to seal the border with Syria, which has been the main conduit for foreign jihadists joining Islamist militias as well as for weapons supplies.

Those fighters were streaming into Syria to fight Assad, whose ouster is a Turkish foreign policy goal. Ousting Assad would enable Turkey to expand its influence in Syria and

‘Kobani is a vivid illustration of disarray and conflicting objectives of this hastily assembled U.S.-led coalition. The U.S. and Turkey have different threat perceptions.’

Fadi Hakura

Chatham House expert on Turkey

elsewhere in the Middle East where Turkish Ottoman sultans ruled until the Ottoman Empire collapsed at the end of World War I.

Like the leader of the Islamic State, Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, Erdogan “wants a broader sphere of influence demarcated not by language or ethnicity but by a broader Islamic identity, albeit a much tamer one than what the Islamic State has forced upon its subjects,” says STRATFOR, a Texas-based firm that analyzes global threats.

Turkey’s end game in Syria is to replace Assad’s regime dominated by his Alawite religious sect with a democratic Islamist government “more akin to the one currently in power in Turkey,” according to STRATFOR.

While Erdogan has indicated willingness to step up his efforts against Islamic mili-

tants, Turkish cooperation is contingent on measures that help achieve his broader goals in Syria — ousting Assad. Indeed, Turkey wants a major U.S. escalation in Syria that focuses on establishing buffer zones and ramping up efforts to take down the Assad regime. Washington has given no sign it intends to deepen its involvement in such a way, focusing instead on efforts to destroy the Islamic State.

In the near term, that means Ankara and Washington are likely to remain at loggerheads.

Meanwhile, U.S. officials have been urging Turkey to soften its resistance, including allowing the U.S. Air Force to mount air attacks against the Islamic State from Incirlik Air Base, a strategic hub in southern Turkey.

Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel on Thursday said the United States is seeking access to Incirlik as well as an agreement to help train and equip moderate Syrian forces.

So far, Turkey has refused.

“I think the current events are complicating an already tenuous relationship between Ankara and Washington, but over time the pressure on Turkey will mount,” Hakura said. “Turkey might, reluctantly, contribute more to the mission, such as allowing Incirlik. However, I think it is unlikely to be very much.”

vandiver.john@stripes.com

STARS AND STRIPES

However you read us, wherever you need us.

Mobile • Online • Print

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR
LETTERS@STRIPE.COM

EUROPE

ADVERTISING

KATHRYN PETERSON
peterston.kathryn@stripes.com
+49 (0) 173 313 6411

CIRCULATION

RAW ROWELL
rowell.van@stripes.com
+49(0)631.3615.9111 DSN 314.583.9111

MIDDLE EAST

ADVERTISING

WAYNE VICTOR
victor.wayne@stripes.com
+49(0)981 466 17074

CIRCULATION

ROBERT REISMANN
reismann.robert@stripes.com
+49(0)631.3615.9150 DSN 314.583.9150

PACIFIC

ADVERTISING

YUKO SAITO
CustomerHelp@Stripes.com
+81(3) 6385.3267 DSN 315.229.3267

CIRCULATION

MARI MATSUMOTO
CustomerHelp@Stripes.com
+81(3) 6385.3171 DSN 315.229.3171

PACIFIC

Kim: Coup, illness among theories on his absence

FROM FRONT PAGE

There is a wide range of theories on what's going on: Kim is sick or dead, has been ousted in a coup or that his younger sister is running the show. Some analysts have suggested that the regime of the poverty-wracked country, hit by so many international sanctions and crop failures, could be facing collapse.

The situation raises questions not only about the pudgy Kim personally but about who is running a country that is considered one of the world's most dangerous because of its nuclear weapons and missile programs — and its repeated threats to use them. There have been reports that the capital, Pyongyang, has been closed off in recent weeks.

For the first time in three years, North Korean leader Kim Jong Un wasn't on a list of dignitaries at a celebration Friday of the anniversary of the founding of the ruling Workers' Party. An official state media dispatch listed senior government, military and party officials who paid their respects at an event marking the party's 69th anniversary, but not Kim. It said a flower basket with Kim's name on it was placed before statues of his father and grandfather, both of whom also ruled North Korea.

A South Korean Ministry of National Defense spokesman said Friday he could not comment because of intelligence concerns about Kim's health or the stability of his regime. Unification Ministry spokesman Lim Byong-cheol said Kim seems to be maintaining authority as normal, and the ministry has no information about any specific health problems, according to a transcript of a press briefing.

Some 28,500 American troops are stationed in South Korea as a deterrent to invasion by the North, which has most of its approximately 1 million troops stationed within 90 miles of the Demilitarized Zone that has separated the two Koreas since the end of the Korean War.

Oct. 10 is a major holiday in North Korea and usually features a major military parade and other activities.

Last year, Kim visited the mausoleum that holds the bodies of his father and grandfather, Kim Il Sung, who began the only communist dynasty, just after midnight.



PHOTOS BY KYODO NEWS/AP

Above: North Korean military personnel visit the statues of late leaders Kim Il Sung, left, and Kim Jong Il to mark the 69th anniversary Thursday of the founding of the ruling Workers' Party of Korea in Pyongyang. Below: North Koreans also gather before the statues.



He later attended a band and chorus concert and sports events, according to the North's mouthpiece, the Korean Central News Agency.

Kim, who is believed to be in his early 30s and has gained a substantial amount of weight since taking over, was limping when seen in July, and a recent North Korean documentary reported that he has been feeling "discomfort."

The country has built a personality cult around all three Kims, portraying them as nearly godlike, even rewriting the tale of Kim Jong Il's birth along the lines of the biblical story of Jesus.

With so little reliable information seeping out, trying to figure out what's going on in North Korea is akin to reading tea leaves. The country seems to employ a strategy of keeping the world guessing.

Last year was one of the most tense on the Korean Peninsula since the war ended, with the North conducting its third and most powerful underground nuclear test following the successful launch of a three-stage rocket that it claims could reach the U.S. mainland.

But things generally cooled off, and a period of relative calm began. Some South Korean media have even described it as a North Korean diplomatic offensive that included sending a delegation of North Korean officials — as well as a contingent of athletes — to the closing ceremonies of the Asian Games last Saturday.

When the officials flew in on Kim Jong Un's private plane, they became the highest-level delegation to visit the South since 2009,

according to Victor Cha and Andy Lim, of the Center for Strategic and International Studies in Washington.

They met with the South's minister of unification and national security adviser and agreed to set up an inter-Korean meeting in late October or early November. Those talks could lead to agreements on more reunions between families separated since the Korean War, Cha and Lim said in a statement Monday.

"One expects at least a temporary thaw between now and the next set of talks, but there is no guarantee that this will be long-lasting," they said.

Then on Tuesday, the two Koreas exchanged fire near their disputed maritime demarcation line, though it was unclear if a North Korean naval ship crossed the line intentionally or by accident.

Hours later, South Korea's Ministry of National Defense released a report to the National Assembly saying the North had announced its goal of achieving reunification between the two Koreas in 2015 — though it apparently didn't specify how — and that the South was preparing for full-scale war.

"For that goal, the North doubled the number (of troops) involved in its summer trainings compared to previous years. It has also boosted its attack capabilities in a consistent manner," Yonhap News quoted the ministry as saying.

Pyongyang also has increased its number of rocket launchers by 300 over the past two years to a total of about 5,100, Yonhap said.

Stars and Stripes staffer Yoo Kyong Chang contributed to this report. alexander.p@stars.com rowland.ashey@stars.com

N. Korea fires on South over leaflet launch

The Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea — North and South Korea traded fire Friday after the North shot at a South Korean propaganda balloon, an official and a news report said.

A defense official in Seoul said North Korea fired at South Korea and some of the shells fell on the South's territory. The official, who spoke on condition of anonymity because of office rules, said South Korea returned fire.

South Korea's Yonhap news agency said the North fired at the propaganda balloon near the South Korean border town of Yeoncheon. It provided no sources for the information.

South Korean activists and North Korean defectors frequently release balloons carrying anti-North Korean leaflets into the North, but Friday's action was likely to anger North Korea more because it came on the founding anniversary of its ruling Workers' Party of Korea.

South Korean civic organizations mainly made up of North Korean defectors sent 10 balloons northward from the South Korean side of the border containing 20,000 anti-North Korea leaflets. The balloons also contained 1,000 U.S. \$1 bills, 400 propaganda DVDs and 300 propaganda thumb drives.

S. Korean kills Chinese fishing vessel captain

SEOUL, South Korea — A South Korea coast guardsman on Friday fatally shot the captain of a Chinese fishing vessel who resisted the inspection of his ship for suspected illegal fishing, officials said.

China's Foreign Ministry quickly urged South Korea to thoroughly investigate the incident.

The crew erupted as a dozen South Korean coast guard officers boarded the Chinese ship in South Korea's western exclusive economic zone, which extends 200 nautical miles from shore, according to South Korea's coast guard.

The Chinese captain began resisting violently when four other Chinese fishing ships pulled up and sent their crewmembers aboard the ship being inspected, said coast guard officer Cho Nam-yong.

The Chinese fishermen wielded knives and beer bottles, according to a coast guard statement.

From The Associated Press

Has Versatility ever looked this good.

Another new era for the BMW X.....



BMW Military Sales
A salute to those who serve

Email : info@firstchoicemsp.com

www.firstchoicemsp.com

BMW Military Sales

Authorized Agency



The Ultimate Driving Machine



EBOLA OUTBREAK

Ominous numbers shadow epidemic

The Washington Post

When the experts describe the Ebola disaster, they do so with numbers. The statistics include not just the obvious ones such as case-loads, deaths and the rate of infection, but also the ones that describe the speed of the global response.

Right now, the math still favors the virus.

Global health officials are looking closely at the "reproduction number," which estimates how many people, on average, will catch the virus from each person stricken with Ebola. The epidemic will begin to decline when that number falls below one. A recent analysis estimated the number at 1.5 to two.

Ebola cases in West Africa have been doubling about every three weeks. There is little evidence that the epidemic is losing momentum.

"The speed at which things are moving on the ground, it's hard for people to get their minds around. People don't understand the concept of exponential growth," said Brad Frieden, director of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. "Exponential growth in the context of three weeks means, 'If I know that X needs to be done, and I work my butt off and get it done in three weeks, it's now half as good as it needs to be.'"

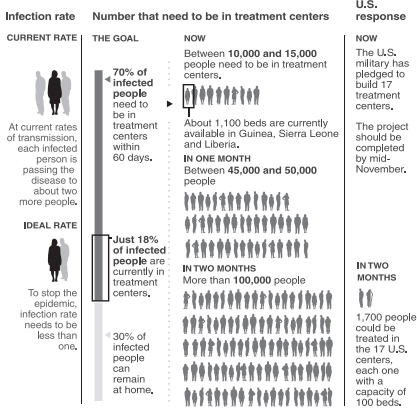
Frieden warned Thursday that without immediate, concerted, bold action, the Ebola virus could become a global calamity on the scale of HIV. He spoke at a gathering of global health officials and government leaders at the World Bank headquarters in Washington. The president of Guinea was at the table and the presidents of Liberia and Sierra Leone joined by video link. Amid much bureaucratic talk and table-thumping was an emerging theme: The virus is still outpacing the efforts to contain it.

"The situation is worse than it was 12 days ago. It's entrenched in the capitals. Seventy percent of the people (who become infected) are definitely dying from this disease and it is accelerating in almost all settings," Bruce Aylward, assistant director general of the World Health Organization, told the group.

Aylward had come from West

Containing Ebola: What it would take

To halt the spread of Ebola, many more people need to be isolated in treatment centers, according to CDC models.



SOURCE: CDC

THE WASHINGTON POST

Africa only hours earlier. He offered three numbers: 70, 70 and 60. To bring the epidemic under control, officials should ensure that at least 70 percent of Ebola-victim burials are conducted safely, and that at least 70 percent of infected people are in treatment, within 60 days, he said.

More numbers came from Ernest Beah, Koroma, president of Sierra Leone: The country desperately needs 750 doctors, 3,000 nurses, 1,500 hygienists, counselors and nutritionists.

The numbers in this crisis are notoriously sketchy, however. Epidemiological data is sketchy at best. No one really knows exactly how big the epidemic is, in part because there are areas in Liberia, Sierra Leone and Guinea where disease detectives cannot venture because of safety concerns.

The current assumption is that for every four known Ebola cases, about six more go unreported.

The latest World Health Organization statistics, published Wednesday, show 8,933 cases of suspected and confirmed Ebola in the West Africa outbreak, with 3,865 deaths. That figure does not include Thomas Eric Duncan, a Liberian man who died Wednesday in Dallas.

"This has been a particularly difficult outbreak because of the difficulty getting a lot of data quickly out of the countries," said Martin Meltzer, a CDC researcher who models epidemics. "My crystal ball is painted a deep black. It's like tracking a hurricane."

Meltzer helped produce a report in late September that said that, at current rates of infection, as many as 1.4 million people would become infected by January. That number, officials stressed, was a

straight extrapolation of the explosive spread of Ebola at a time when the world had managed to mount only a feeble response. The more vigorous response underway is designed to bend that curve.

The U.S. military is building 17 treatment centers that can hold 100 people each, but the top military commander in Africa said Tuesday that they won't be ready until mid-November. Liberia and Sierra Leone have a particularly keen need for more hospital beds. The two countries currently have 924 beds between them, but need 4,078, according to the WHO.

"The virus is moving on virus time; we're moving on bureaucracy or program time," said Michael Osterholm, director of the Center for Infectious Disease Research and Policy at the University of Minnesota. "The virus is actually picking up the pace. Even as we add resources, we get farther behind."

Aylward, the WHO official, pointed to some bright spots in the response in recent weeks. Liberia has gone from just six burial teams to 54. Officials are working with religious leaders to enable safe burials while respecting cultural traditions.

The latest data from the WHO show hints of progress in bringing Ebola under control in certain rural areas stricken by the disease earlier this year. Seven provinces in Guinea that previously reported Ebola cases saw no new infections in the most recent three-week period covered in Wednesday's WHO update. Two districts in Sierra Leone and one in Liberia showed a decline in infections.

But experts caution against reading too much into small fluctuations that may simply reflect an increase or decrease in surveillance, or a reappraisal of older data. This cautious attitude toward lower numbers particularly applies to a reported drop in new cases in Liberia in the last three weeks, which the WHO said is "unlikely to be genuine" and more likely reflects "a deterioration in the ability of overwhelmed responders to record accurate epidemiological data."

Some fear 'police state' as Liberia mulls restrictions

The Associated Press

MONROVIA, Liberia — Liberian lawmakers debated Friday whether to grant President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf more power to restrict movement and public gatherings in the fight against Ebola as one parliamentary warned that the country could turn into a "police state."

State media said the House of Representatives would convene a special session Friday to discuss the proposed measures outlined in an Oct. 1 letter. The contentious proposals include the power to restrict public gatherings and appropriate property "without payment of any kind or any further judicial process" to combat Ebola.

The letter also says Sirleaf can "limit the right to assembly for any reason."

Sirleaf's government imposed a three-month state of emergency beginning Aug. 6, and a statement warned at the time that this would involve suspending some rights and privileges.

The new proposals, however, drew protest as soon as they were read out in a plenary session earlier this month. A headline in the newspaper Women Voices this week asked: "Tyrannical Times or Ebola Preventive Measures?" "I see a kind of police state creeping in," said lawmaker Bhorl Chambers, a one-time supporter of Sirleaf who has since joined the opposition camp.

GOP lawmaker gives OK to send war money to Africa

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A powerful GOP senator lifted his objections Friday to a \$750 million Pentagon request to fight Ebola in Africa, freeing up the money immediately.

Oklahoma GOP Sen. James Inhofe, a senior member of the Senate Armed Services Committee, gave his OK to shift leftover Afghanistan war money to the Ebola effort, which involves sending almost 4,000 troops to Africa to offer logistical support to health care workers fighting the epidemic.

Inhofe said he still has reservations and questions whether the Pentagon has a coherent strategy to fight the disease.

"After careful consideration,

I believe that the outbreak has reached a point that the only organization in the world able to provide the capabilities and speed necessary to respond to this crisis is the U.S. military," Inhofe said.

Inhofe's approval came a day after other senior Republicans backed the effort. It frees \$700 million on top of the \$50 million already approved as a first installment.

The administration originally requested \$1 billion to send up to 4,000 troops to Africa. In briefings this week, lawmakers said, Pentagon officials estimated \$750 million would cover a six-month mission that would include airlifting personnel, medical supplies, protective suits and equipment.



Before you go shopping for a home of your own, get the best loan rates available for veterans from a veteran-owned and operated company that partners with veteran nonprofits and carefully selected lenders.

STARS & STRIPES.
VA Loan Center
Get Real Time Pricing on VA Loans
visit stripes.com/valoans today!

Powered by VA Loan Captain

"The virus is moving on virus time; we're moving on bureaucracy or program time. The virus is actually picking up the pace. Even as we add resources, we get farther behind."

Michael Osterholm
Center for Infectious Disease Research and Policy at the University of Minnesota

NATION

Obama hopes policies help party

By JIM KUHNEN
AND DARLENE SUPERVILLE
The Associated Press

SANTA MONICA, Calif. — President Barack Obama is increasingly touting the economic recovery in a bid to help his party retain narrow control over the Senate in November elections, a campaign strategy fraught with risk at a time when his popularity is down and many Americans are frustrated that their lives have not improved despite the emergence from recession.

The White House is betting that Obama's tight embrace of the economic recovery and populist proposals for gender pay equity and a higher minimum wage will galvanize his core supporters and persuade fence-sitting independents to vote for Democratic candidates.

The stakes in this election are especially high because the Republicans are likely to retain control of the lower house of Congress and they appear to have a strong chance of gaining the six seats in the Senate they need to gain control there.

While noting that he's not on the ballot in this election, Obama has become fond of saying that



Ariel Jalali, CEO of Sensay, offers President Barack Obama a job, after he leaves office, during a Q&A session at Cross Campus, a shared office complex in Santa Monica, Calif. on Thursday.

his policies are at stake. The line has prompted a reflexive flinch from Democrats who are trying to fend off a concerted Republican campaign to link Democratic opponents to the president.

Addressing young entrepreneurs Thursday at a startup center in California, Obama highlighted his economic record for the third time in eight days.

"A lot of you entered into the workforce during the worst financial crisis and then the worst recession since the Great Depression," he told the gathering of mostly millennials, those born after 1980. "You are coming out of this recession with the best educated, most diverse, most digitally fluent generation in American history."

For Democrats, the problem is not Obama's message; it's the pitchman. "The messenger is not the most popular guy on the planet right now," said Democratic pollster Mark Mellman.

Public opinion polls show substantial support for Obama's proposals to raise the minimum wage, seek pay equity for women and close corporate tax loopholes. But on the economic issues he's most associated with — the fitful recovery from the Great Recession and his health care law — the American public is not with him.

A September AP-GFK poll found 40 percent approve and 58 percent disapprove of his handling of the economy, and that 41 percent approve and 58 percent disapprove of his handling

of health care. Overall, Obama's national approval ratings are 44 percent, compared to 51 percent who disapprove, according to the latest numbers from Gallup.

That said, Obama does have an economic story to tell. Unemployment has dropped from a high of 10 percent in 2009 to 5.9 percent last month. The economy grew last quarter at a better clip than many expected. The stock market has rallied to record highs. He inherited a federal deficit of more than a trillion dollars; the deficit has been cut by more than half to \$486 billion.

But, to the frustration of the White House, that message hasn't gained much traction against a headwind of nearly stagnant wage growth.

High courts block states' voter ID laws

From wire reports

WASHINGTON — The U.S. Supreme Court has blocked Wisconsin from enforcing its strict voter identification law in this year's election.

By a 6-3 vote, the justices granted an emergency appeal from civil rights lawyers who argued it was too late to put the rule into effect.

Lawyers for the American Civil Liberties Union had noted the state had already sent out thousands of absentee ballots without mentioning the need for voters to return a copy of the photo identification.

It would be "chaos," they said, for the state now to have to decide whether or not to count such ballots because the voters failed to comply with the new law.

Justices Samuel A. Alito Jr., Antonin Scalia and Clarence Thomas dissented. The six justices in the majority did not issue a written opinion to accompany the decision to lift an order by a lower court that would have allowed the law to take effect.

At nearly the same time, a federal judge in Texas struck down that state's new voter ID law on the grounds that it violated the constitutional right to vote and discriminated against racial minorities. Texas Attorney General Gregg Abbott said the state would appeal the ruling.

The Wisconsin and Texas cases were the two most closely watched tests of new voter rules this year. In both states, the Republican-led legislatures sought to tighten the rules for voting and to require all registered voters who did not have a driver's license to obtain a photo ID card.

Clinton puts emphasis on families

The Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — As she explores another presidential campaign, Hillary Rodham Clinton often says anyone who seeks the White House needs a compelling message and an agenda for the country.

Clinton has announced no decisions about her political future but she is beginning to describe themes that could animate a future campaign.

At a Thursday night rally for Tom Wolf, the front-running gubernatorial candidate in Pennsylvania, Clinton described a Democratic Party that "stands for families, stands for working people, stands for fairness and justice." Pointing to equal pay for women, a boost in the minimum wage and stronger family leave policies, she declared, "a 20th century economy will not work for 21st century families. It is past time for a fresh start."

Wolf, who faces Republican Gov. Tom Corbett in next month's election, has used the "fresh start" tagline during his campaign but Clinton adopted it, an indication of how she might campaign during President Barack Obama's final



Michael Bryant, The Philadelphia Inquirer/AP

Pennsylvania Democratic gubernatorial candidate Tom Wolf and former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton attend a political event at the Constitution Center on Thursday.

two years. It was Clinton's first appearance at a public campaign rally this fall and came before about 1,000 Democrats at an event near Philadelphia's Independence Hall, where the Declaration of Independence was adopted and the U.S. Constitution was signed.

As Democrats try to maintain their Senate majority and win governors' races, Clinton has embarked on an extensive campaign schedule on behalf of her party.

In her speech, Clinton, a newly-

minted grandmother, said a nurse working at the hospital where baby Charlotte was born thanked her for advocating for paid maternity leave, which she says resonated with new mothers trying to balance work and family.

"You should not have to be the grandchild of a president to get a good education, to get good health care," Clinton said, urging that "we give every child in Pennsylvania the same chance that I'm determined to give my granddaughter."

Reach out and touch
the news with the
Stars and Stripes Tablet Edition

The fastest and most reliable way to get the latest military-related news, videos and photos on your iPad®

The latest Tablet Edition offers:

- All an new, easy-to-read layout and design
- Optimized fast performance and download speeds
- Beautiful, high-resolution original photography
- More categories and more articles than ever before
- Expanded photo and video galleries

All for the same great low price!

Learn more by visiting
starsandstripes.com/ipad



STARS&STRIPES

TABLET EDITION v2.0

Download is available from the Apple App Store. iPad is a trademark of Apple Inc., registered in the U.S. and other countries. App Store is a service mark of Apple Inc.



NATION



PHOTOS BY JEFF ROBERSON/AP

Protesters block a street Thursday, a day after Vonderderrit D. Myers was shot and killed by a white, off-duty St. Louis police officer in St. Louis.

Protesters, police face off in Mo. after shooting

By JIM SALTER
AND JEFF ROBERSON
The Associated Press

ST. LOUIS — Protesters angered by the fatal shooting of a black teen by police faced off with officers in south St. Louis for a second night as accusations of racial profiling prompted calls for a federal investigation ahead of a weekend of planned rallies and civil disobedience.

State and city leaders have urged the Justice Department to investigate the death of Vonderderrit D. Myers, 18, in the Shaw neighborhood Wednesday night, fearing he was targeted because he was black. Police say the white officer who killed Myers was returning fire, but Myers' parents say he was unarmed.

"This here was racial profiling turned deadly," state Sen. Jamilah Nashied, a St. Louis Democrat, said at a news conference Thursday.

Myers' death comes two months after the Aug. 9 fatal shooting of Michael Brown, a black unarmed 18-year-old, by a white police officer in nearby Ferguson. Brown's killing sparked dozens of often violent protests in the St. Louis suburb. A state grand jury is deciding whether Officer Darren Wilson will face charges in his death.

Late Thursday night following a quiet candlelight prayer vigil for Myers, hundreds of people joined a more rowdy gathering in Shaw to protest his death.

Police in riot gear lined up on a high street, flanked by brand-name stores and restaurants. Protesters yelled abuse and profanities to taunt the officers, who silently stood their ground. Police helicopters buzzed above the neighborhood. Officers used pepper spray to force the crowd back.

Some protesters burned the American flag, while others banged on drums and shouted,



A member of the St. Louis Police Department stands outside a business with a door broken by protesters.

"This is what democracy looks like!" Some slammed the sides of police vans. Broken glass littered the street.

Eventually the protesters backed off, moving a couple of blocks away. Riot police remained in the area.

Organizers said thousands of activists and protesters from around the country were expected to come to the St. Louis area starting Friday for four days of rallies, marches and civil disobedience to protest the Ferguson shooting, racial profiling and police violence.

LA-area mountains to be national monument

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama has designated 346,000 acres within the San Gabriel Mountains northeast of Los Angeles as a national monument, a step supporters say ensures better stewardship in one of the nation's most heavily visited forests. Some local officials worry about potential restrictions.

A White House official, speaking on condition of anonymity ahead of Friday's announcement, said Obama's order will ensure the land is permanently protected.

The San Gabriel Mountains are

a popular recreation area, and more than 15 million people live within a 90-minute drive. The White House says the designation builds on more than a decade of support for additional protections from various businesses and environmental groups, as well as members of Congress.

Rep. Judy Chu, D-Calif., sponsored legislation in the House designating the San Gabriel Mountains as a national recreation area, but the bill has stalled in a House committee, where Republicans have generally been wary of designations that could limit what activities can occur on federal

lands. In explaining her proposal on her congressional website, Chu said the designation would help cities create more opportunities for recreation and improve visitor services.

Obama has used his authority under the Antiquities Act to create or expand 12 other national monuments across the country.

White House officials say Los Angeles County is one of the most disadvantaged counties in terms of access to open space for minorities, especially children. For many urban residents, the mountains provide the only available large-scale open space.

Ore. gov's fiancée admits to 1997 sham marriage

By JONATHAN J. COOPER
The Associated Press

PORTLAND, Ore. — Oregon Gov. John Kitzhaber is considered the front-runner in next month's election, but his fiancée's stunning admission that she was paid to illegally marry an immigrant in 1997 — plus other allegations about her — have suddenly complicated the race.

Wiping away tears at a Thursday news conference, Sylvia Hayes, 47, said she accepted about \$5,000 to marry an immigrant so that he could remain in the United States.

"It was a marriage of convenience," Hayes said. "He needed help, and I needed financial support."

Ashamed and embarrassed, Hayes said she had kept the marriage secret from Kitzhaber until a Portland alternative newspaper, Willamette Week, began asking questions.

The Democratic governor has not publicly addressed his fiancée's secret marriage, but the issue could come up when he debates Republican state Rep. Dennis Richardson on Friday.

Hayes said she was "associating with the wrong people" while struggling to put herself through college when she agreed to the sham marriage. Hayes was twice divorced and just shy of her 30th birthday when she married an 18-year-old Ethiopian man.

"It was wrong then and it is wrong now, and I am here today to accept the consequences, some of which will be life-changing," Hayes said.

She said she was "ashamed and embarrassed" and did not tell the governor about the marriage until the newspaper's question this week. She appeared alone before a podium in a downtown Portland office building, saying she asked Kitzhaber not to join her because she can't look at him without crying.

When she told Kitzhaber about the marriage, "he was stunned and he was hurt," Hayes said, pausing to fight tears. "And I will be eternally grateful for the beau-

'It was a marriage of convenience. He needed help, and I needed financial support.'

Cynthia Hayes
fiancée of Oregon Gov. John Kitzhaber

tiful, loving way he has supported me in this."

Hayes apologized to Kitzhaber, her friends and family and to Oregonians, saying she deeply regrets not being upfront about "a serious mistake." The couple confirmed in August that they're engaged.

Hayes said they never lived together, met only a handful of times and have not had any contact since the divorce was finalized in 2002.

Hayes has openly discussed her hardscrabble childhood in Washington state and her struggle to support herself financially since high school.

Kitzhaber met Hayes when she ran unsuccessfully for the state legislature in 2002. Kitzhaber, who was governor from 1995 until 2003, divorced his second wife, Sharon, shortly after leaving office. Kitzhaber made a political comeback in 2010.

Though they have yet to marry, Kitzhaber refers to Hayes as the "first lady," and she has embraced the role of political spouse while continuing her work as an energy consultant. She has been active in developing Kitzhaber's energy and environmental policy.

A story in Willamette Week on Wednesday said Hayes has used her title as first lady and her role in advising the governor to advance her private consulting business. Hayes said she'll step back from her work advising Kitzhaber for now.

Vehicle sparked Calif. fire; led to pilot's death

YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK, Calif. — Investigators have learned that sparks from a vehicle at the edge of Yosemite National Park were the cause of wildfire that led to the death of a firefighting air-tanker pilot this week.

Meanwhile, another series of Northern California blazes that destroyed five homes has threatened hundreds more near a major highway.

Fire investigators said Thursday that the blaze near Yosemite broke out because of hot metal fragments from a vehicle creating sparks, Yosemite said in a statement.

Investigators had not deter-

mined what type of vehicle or what part may have caused the sparks, saying it "could be the result of several things such as trailer safety chains dragging on the pavement, vehicle brake parts generating a spark or other sources."

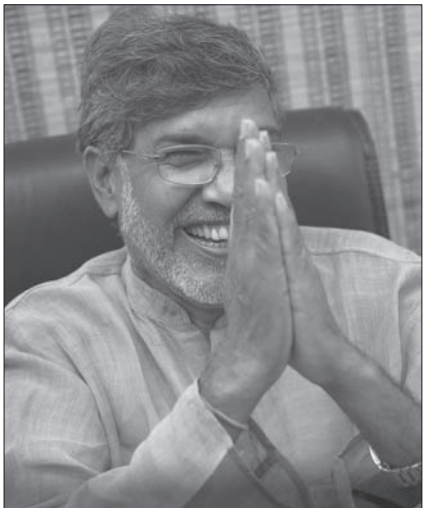
They didn't immediately say what evidence led them to the cause of the fire that had burned 245 acres and was 10 percent contained.

Within a few hours of the blaze breaking out Tuesday, a state fire air tanker crashed into a canyon wall, killing pilot Geoffrey "Craig" Hunt, 62, of San Jose.

CalFire's fleet of 22 tankers remained grounded while the cause of the crash was investigated.

From The Associated Press

NATION/WORLD



AP photos

Kailash Satyarthi, left, an Indian children's rights activist, and Malala Yousufzai, right, a 17-year-old Pakistani student and education activist, were jointly awarded the Nobel Peace Prize on Friday for risking their lives to fight for children's rights.

Spotlight on children's rights

Pakistani teen, Indian activist awarded Nobel Peace Prize

BY MARK LEWIS AND KARL RITTER
The Associated Press

OSLO, Norway — Malala Yousufzai, of Pakistan, and Kailash Satyarthi, of India, won the Nobel Peace Prize on Friday for risking their lives to fight for children's rights. The decision made Malala, a 17-year-old student and education activist, the youngest-ever Nobel winner.

The news set off celebrations on the streets of Mingora, the main town in Pakistan's volatile Swat valley, with residents greeting each other and distributing sweets. At the town's Khushal Public School, which is owned by Malala's father, students danced in celebration Friday, jumping up and down.

When she was a student there, Malala was shot in the head by a Taliban gunman two years ago for insisting that girls as well as boys have the right to an education. Surviving several operations with the help of British medical care, she continued both her activism and her studies.

Appropriately, Malala was at school in the central English city of Birmingham at the time of the Nobel announcement and was expected to make a statement later Friday.

Satyarthi, 60, has been at the forefront of a global movement to end child slavery and exploitative child labor since 1980, when he gave up his career as an electrical engineer. The grass-roots activist has led the rescue of tens of thousands of child slaves and developed a successful model for their education and rehabilitation. He has also survived several attempts on his life.

"Child slavery is a crime against humanity.

Humanity itself is at stake here. A lot of work still remains but I will see the end of child labor in my lifetime," Satyarthi told The Associated Press at his office in New Delhi. "If any child is a child slave in any part of the world, it is a blot on humanity. It is a disgrace."

Malala's father, Ziauddin Yousufzai, said the decision will further the rights of girls.

"(The Nobel will) boost the courage of Malala and enhance her capability to work for the cause of girls' education," he told the AP.

Pakistani Interior Minister Chaudhry Nisar Ali Khan congratulated the nation, Malala and her family, noting she was the first minor to win a Nobel Prize.

"(This) has given pride to the whole of Pakistan," he said.

The Nobel committee's announcement reflected a delicate diplomatic balance, naming one activist from Pakistan and another from India, two countries that are long-time bitter rivals; one Muslim and one Hindu; both sexes; an elder statesman of child's rights and a youthful advocate who had herself been a victim.

Committee chairman Thorbjørn Jagland said it was important to reward both an Indian Hindu and a Pakistani Muslim for joining "in a common struggle for education and against extremism." The two will split the Nobel award of \$1.1 million.

By highlighting children's rights, the committee widened the scope of the peace prize, which in its early days was given for efforts to end or prevent armed conflicts.

"It is a prerequisite for peaceful global devel-

opment that the rights of children and young people be respected," the committee said. "In conflict-ridden areas in particular, the violation of children leads to the continuation of violence from generation to generation."

Raised in Pakistan's ruggedly beautiful, politically volatile Swat Valley, Malala was barely 11 years old when she began championing girls' education, speaking out in TV interviews. The Taliban had overrun her hometown of Mingora, terrorizing residents, threatening to blow up girls' schools, ordering teachers and students into the all-encompassing burgas.

She was critically injured on Oct. 9, 2012, when a Taliban gunman boarded her school bus and shot her in the head. She survived through luck — the bullet did not enter her brain — and by the quick intervention of British doctors visiting Pakistan.

Flown to Britain for specialized treatment at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital in Birmingham, she underwent numerous surgeries but made a strong recovery. Malala now lives with her father, mother and two brothers in Birmingham and goes to the private Edgbaston High School for girls.

The Nobel committee said Satyarthi was carrying on the tradition of another great Indian, Mahatma Gandhi.

"Showing great personal courage, Kailash Satyarthi, maintaining Gandhi's tradition, has headed various forms of protests and demonstrations, all peaceful, focusing on the grave exploitation of children for financial gain," the committee said.

Rival gun measures on ballot in Washington

BY RACHEL LA CORTE
The Associated Press

OLYMPIA, Wash. — Two competing measures on the Washington state ballot this fall ask voters to take a stance on expanded background checks for gun sales. One is seeking universal checks for all sales and transfers, including private transactions. The other would prevent any such expansion.

Supporters of the expanded background checks initiative — who have received large donations from wealthy figures including Microsoft co-founders Bill Gates and Paul Allen — have spent millions, far outpacing the anti-expansion effort.

What happens if both pass on Nov. 4 is anyone's guess, though the Washington state secretary of state's office has said that either the Legislature or the courts would have to sort it out.

"We've never passed rival measures dealing with the same subject," said David Ammons, spokesman for Secretary of State Kim Wyman. Ammons noted that there is no state statute or rule on what to do in such a case. "Someone would most likely bring a court challenge."

No other state has a gun-related measure on its ballot this year, but some say proponents of universal background checks in other states could gain momentum if expansion wins in Washington state.

"If you succeed here, maybe you have a shot in some other states," said Todd Donovan, a political scientist at Western Washington University.

Six states — California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, New York, Rhode Island — plus Washington, D.C., require universal background checks for all sales and transfers of all firearms, according to the National Conference of State Legislatures. Other states have varying laws on expansion beyond what federal law requires, including Oregon, which requires a background check for purchases at gun shows.

Like federal law, Washington law requires checks for sales or transfers by licensed dealers but not for purchases from private sellers, like those who sell at gun shows or to friends.

So far, the National Rifle Association has kept a low profile. According to state records, the group has spent less than \$200,000 against the expansion initiative, a fraction of what has been spent by 1,594 proponents. The NRA hasn't endorsed the opposing initiative.

NRA spokesman Andrew Arulanandam wouldn't address the lack of support for I-591, but said the group felt it was "more prudent" to put its resources toward defeating the background check expansion effort.

It is a prerequisite for peaceful global development that the rights of children and young people be respected. In conflict-ridden areas in particular, the violation of children leads to the continuation of violence from generation to generation.

Nobel Peace Prize committee

STARS AND STRIPES

Max D. Lederer Jr., Publisher
Richard Braun, General Manager, Europe
Lt. Col. Michael C. Bailey, Europe commander
Lt. Col. Brian Choate, Pacific commander
Terry M. Wegner, Pacific Business Operations

EDITORIAL

Terry Leonard, Editor
leonard.terry@stars.com
Robert H. Reid, Senior Managing Editor
reid.robert@stars.com
Sam Amrhein, Managing Editor International
amrhein.sam@stars.com
Tina Croley, Managing Editor for Content
croley.tina@stars.com
Sean Moores, Managing Editor for Presentation
moores.sean@stars.com
Joe Gromelski, Managing Editor for Digital
gromelski.joe@stars.com

BUREAU STAFF

Europe/Mideast
Teddie Weyer, Europe & Mideast Bureau Chief
weyer.teddie@stars.com
+49(0)631.3615.9310 cell
+49(0)173.315.1881; DSN (314)583.9310
Pacific
Paul Alexander, Pacific Bureau Chief
alexander.paul@stars.com
+81-3 6385.5377; cell (080)583.1673
DSN (315)225.5377
Washington
Patrick Dickson, Washington Bureau Chief
dickson.patrick@stars.com
+1(202)761.0908; DSN (312)763.0908
Brian Bowers, Assistant Managing Editor, News
bowers.brian@stars.com
Amanda Trypanis, Design Desk Supervisor
trypanis.amanda@stars.com

CONTACT US

Washington
tel: +1(202) 761.0900; DSN (312)763.0900;
fax: +1(202) 761.0890
529 14th Street NW, Suite 350, Washington, DC
20045-1301

Reader letters
letters@stars.com

Additional contacts
stars.com/contactus

OMBUDESMAN

Ernie Gates

The Stars and Stripes ombudsman protects the free flow of news and information, reporting any attempts by the military or other authorities to undermine the newspaper's independence. The ombudsman responds to concerns and questions from readers, and monitors coverage for fairness, accuracy, timeliness and balance. The ombudsman welcomes comments from readers, and can be contacted by email at ombudsman@stars.com, or by phone at 202.761.0587.

Stars and Stripes (USPS 0417900) is published weekdays (except Dec. 25 and Jan. 1) for 30 cents Monday through Thursday and for \$1 on Friday by Pacific Stars and Stripes, Unit 45002, APO AP 96338-5002. Periodicals postage paid at San Francisco, CA. Postmaster: Send address changes to Pacific Stars and Stripes, Unit 45002, APO AP 96338-5002.

This newspaper is authorized by the Department of Defense for members of the military services overseas. However, the contents of Stars and Stripes are unofficial, and are not to be considered as the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government. As a DOD newspaper, Stars and Stripes may be distributed through official channels and use appropriated funds for distribution at remote locations where overseas DOD personnel are located.

The appearance of advertising in this publication does not constitute endorsement by the Department of Defense or Stars and Stripes of the products or services advertised. Products or services advertised shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other nonmerit factor of the purchaser, user or patron.

© Stars and Stripes 2014

stars.com

OPINION

Destroying a \$30,000 Islamic State pickup truck can cost US \$500,000

By JUSTINE DRENNAN
Foreign Policy

On Saturday, Oct. 4, Day 58 of the American campaign against the Islamic State group, U.S. aircraft carried out nine strikes inside Iraq and Syria, destroying two tanks, three Humvees, one bulldozer and an unidentified vehicle. The strikes also hit several teams of Islamic State fighters and destroyed six of their firing positions.

At first glance, that might seem like a lot of damage. Leaving aside the significance of killing Islamic State militants and only looking at equipment, the tanks were worth an estimated \$4.5 million to \$6.5 million apiece and each Humvee cost \$150,000 to \$250,000, bringing the total value of the equipment destroyed to somewhere between \$9.5 million and \$13.8 million.

But that's less impressive when one considers that each U.S. "strike" against the self-proclaimed Islamic State group can involve several aircraft and munitions and cost up to \$500,000, according to Todd Harrison, an expert with the Center for Strategic and Budgetary Assessments, a Washington-based defense think tank.

Harrison said the cheapest possible strike could cost roughly \$50,000 — assuming a single plane dropping one of the cheaper types of bombs, that the majority of airstrikes cost much more, involving F-15s, F-16s, F-22s and other aircraft that cost \$9,000 to upward of \$20,000 per hour to operate and explosives that cost tens to hundreds of thousands of dollars. Harrison noted that each strike's price "depends on the distance to the target site, how long it may need to loiter, what type of aircraft is used, and whether it needs aerial refueling (and how many times)."

But using his \$500,000 upper estimate, last Saturday's strike missions alone cost as much as \$4.5 million. And those figures don't even include the intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance flights necessary to scope out targets ahead of strikes, which have helped make even the low-level campaign against the Islamic State hugely expensive. The Pentagon revealed on Monday that it has spent as much as \$1.1 billion on military operations against the Islamic State since June.

Even more disheartening, most, if not all, of the equipment being destroyed originally came from the United States — which is why we're able to estimate its worth. It was given to the Iraq army ahead of the U.S. military's withdrawal in 2011, and captured by the Islamic State group when it advanced into Iraq earlier this year. That means Washington is now spending hundreds of millions of dollars from the U.S. Treasury to destroy Humvees, tanks and other weapons that American taxpayers purchased. The situation has led some observers to joke that the Pentagon is should christen the mission "Operation Hey, That's My Humvee."

Last Saturday's strikes are indicative of a key complexity of the U.S.-led campaign in Iraq and Syria: In throwing its hugely expensive 21st-century weaponry at a band of insurgents the Pentagon is using planes that can cost nearly \$200 million apiece against pickup trucks costing virtually pennies in comparison.



SHAWN NICKEL/Courtesy of the U.S. Air Force

A Navy F-18E Super Hornet supporting operations against the Islamic State group receives fuel from a KC-135 Stratotanker over Iraq on Oct. 4.

That's not a new problem for the United States. In the aftermath of the Sept. 11 attacks, President George W. Bush famously told four senators that he wasn't "going to fire a \$2 million missile at a \$10 empty tent and hit a camel in the butt."

Just one Tomahawk cruise missile costs more than \$1 million. The United States launched at least 47 last month, though many of them reportedly targeted the mysterious Khorasan Group, and not the Islamic State group.

Clearly, even though U.S. engagement so far has taken the form of airstrikes rather than "boots on the ground," the costs haven't been low. What's not clear from Pentagon reports is just how those costs measure up against the aggregate value of the fighters, equipment and infrastructure the Sunni militant group has lost in the strikes.

As to the number of militants killed, the Pentagon has reported only that airstrikes have hit three large units, several small units and an unspecified number of other fighters.

To be fair to the Pentagon, though, the cost of the equipment destroyed is a hard number to tally. It's difficult to know exactly when particular pieces of the U.S. hardware now in the hands of ISIS, as the group is also called, were sent to Iraq, and what that value is now after accounting for depreciation. That makes the above price tags for equipment, which use today's "sticker price" for tanks and Humvees, generous estimates of the vehicles' actual value when destroyed.

Even so, 62 days after the air campaign began, and \$1.1 billion of dollars later, U.S.-led strikes have destroyed arms and vehicles totaling just \$123 million to \$173 million, by Foreign Policy's estimate. Granted, that estimate doesn't account for the harder-to-calculate value of other damaged or destroyed Islamic State group equipment and infrastructure, including portions of

valuable oil refineries under its control. Six expanding airstrikes from Iraq to Syria, the United States and its Arab coalition partners have carried out 16 strikes on Islamic State group-held oil refineries.

That could represent a significant dent in the Islamic State group's revenues. These Syrian refineries reportedly earn the group \$2 million per day. Refineries in Iraq, which so far haven't been hit by U.S.-led airstrikes, make the group about \$1 million per day. On Sept. 25, the Pentagon said it had crippled most of the Syrian refineries. But, as Foreign Policy reported on Tuesday, just how crippled they are remains unclear.

Besides, most airstrikes haven't targeted refineries. In addition to striking equipment originally from the United States they've hit things like Islamic State fighters' improvised explosive device (IED) emplacements, fighting positions, checkpoints, training camps and garrisons, weapons storage and manufacturing facilities, Islamic State-held airfields, and various other buildings. The value of many of these targets is relatively insignificant. On Sept. 16, five U.S. airstrikes managed only to destroy one truck, one anti-aircraft artillery piece, two small boats and one fighting position. With estimates for the cost of five airstrikes going as high as \$2.5 million, that means the United States used an awfully expensive hammer to hit a couple of relatively cheap nails.

Another recent Central Command press release, using a different acronym the militant group is known by, touted the destruction of "an ISIL guard shack" among its victories. The weapon that destroyed the guard shack would have cost tens of thousands of dollars, and would have been dropped by an aircraft that, likewise, cost tens of thousands of dollars to fly. The shack may not have been very expensive to build, but it certainly was pricey to destroy.

Tell us what you think

Stars and Stripes welcomes your comments on editorial and columns that are published in the newspaper, and values letters on topics of importance in the lives of our readers. All letters must be signed, and must include the writer's address or base and telephone number. Please limit all letters to 300 words. We reserve the right to edit letters for length, taste and clarity. To write us, please refer to the Reader letters information on this page.

OPINION

Florida's 2 least-wanted vie to be governor

BY MARGARET CARLSON
Bloomberg News

Florida used to be known for oranges. Now it's known for political theater, mostly of the tragic sort.

In 2000, we spent weeks watching election officials hold up punch-card chad and butterfly ballots to determine who won the White House. Before that, we lived through the 24-hour coverage of Elián González, the unaccompanied minor from Cuba who washed up on the shores of a swing state and became a political football. In 2008, presidential candidate Rudy Giuliani, like so many New Yorkers before him, went there to die. In 2014, Florida is giving us the spectacle of its 44th governor, Charlie Crist, trying to get his job back from the 45th, Rick Scott. Voters don't seem to care much for either.

The grudge match has all the unsettling "who's-on-first?" quality. Crist, a long-time Republican, is running as a Democrat. That's in keeping with his enigmatic, shape-shifting, too-tan-even-for-the-Sunshine-State persona.

When it looked as if he would lose his bid for reelection as governor in 2010, Crist dropped out of the race and decided to run for an open U.S. Senate seat instead. When it looked as if he would lose that nomination to tea party favorite Marco Rubio, he became an independent. He lost anyway. He switched parties again in 2012, and is now running as the ersatz Democratic former Republican.

Crist's best quality is how pleasant he is. He comes for drinks, stays for supper and doesn't leave until he's sprinkled Crist-dust all around. In office, he was the kind of Republican that Democrats could tolerate, even though he would have funded the Republican playbook of war for capital punishment and gun rights, and against abortion and same-sex marriage.

But he wasn't Ted Cruz, either. Crist recognized that Florida used to be paradise and tried to preserve it by buying land from the polluting sugar growers and imposing strict air quality standards. While

he was governor, the state's K-12 schools rose to become seventh-best in the United States, according to Education Week. He also made it easier for convicted felons to regain their civil rights.

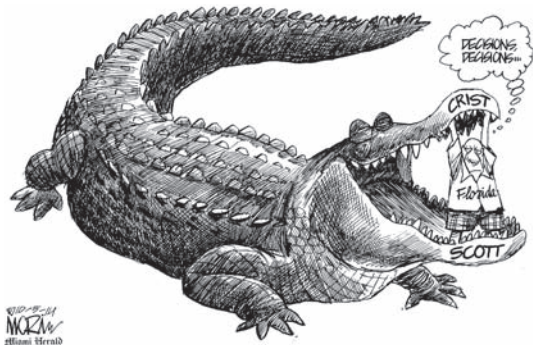
What stopped him in his political tracks was President Barack Obama. A colder guy than Crist might have been able to take Obama's stimulus funds in 2009 and simultaneously refuse to shake the Democrat's hand. But Crist got entangled in one of Obama's drive-by man-hugs, and that's what led him to his current political incarceration. So now he's pro-gay marriage, pro-choice and pro-sensible gun regulation.

Scott has consistency going for him. He came into office with the distinction of having been chief executive officer of Columbia/HCA Healthcare when the company racked up the largest Medicare and Medicaid fraud settlement in history. You might think Florida's mighty senior-citizen bloc would resent a record that includes such disregard for some of their favorite federal programs, but Scott was able to get himself elected in 2010 after spending \$70 million on ads that made him out to be the greatest businessman since Lee Iacocca and the biggest Obama critic anywhere.

Scott doesn't have the natural touch, and his efforts to make himself seem more cuddly have sometimes backfired. For example, on the campaign trail in 2010, he made a big deal about adopting a rescue dog. Turns out, he got rid of the Labrador retriever — named Reagan — only months after the election. This year, he has also added burden of defending a record that includes cuts to education spending, a decline in the state's K-12 performance, and a failure to make good on promises to create jobs.

His most controversial decision was his rejection of the more than \$2 billion in federal funds for the already approved high-speed railroad between Tampa and Orlando. Instead, he burdened Floridians with new "first class" and "coach" toll lanes on state highways, costing drivers \$3 billion.

Big Sugar keeps dumping sullied into the Everglades, and Scott scoffs at federal clean



water standards. He played with people's heads by saying he favored Medicaid expansion dollars under the Affordable Care Act, but only for the three years the federal government would be footing the bill and only if the program was privatized, conditions he knew the legislature would reject. Crist promises to use anything at his disposal to get those Medicaid dollars.

If Crist suffers from being too willing to change his colors, Scott is too dazzled by his own business acumen, which may explain his love for privatizing things, including prisons. In July, protesters turned out when Scott attended a \$100,000-a-plate fundraiser in his honor at the home of prison magnate George Zoley, chairman of Geo Group, in Boca Raton. Geo, the second-largest prison company, runs facilities in Broward County and beyond. A juvenile center it operated in Mississippi until 2012 made headlines because it was so riddled by sex, drugs and violence that a judge shut it down for "inhuman" conditions.

That might make you vote for the other

guy, until you find out that Crist got money from Zoley, too, (since returned) and has made use of Geo's corporate jet.

These two badly damaged candidates provide further proof that a shift of the Earth in 2000 flung all loose items to Florida. Scott has unleashed a barrage of negative ads. Crist is hanging on, and the two are about even in the polls. Scott, nicknamed Voldemort for his bald head and trouble connecting with voters, is going to have to make a positive case for himself.

That may be a tall order for both candidates. In a poll by Quinnipiac University released Sept. 24, Scott was seen negatively by 48 percent of likely voters. Crist by 49 percent. Voters said 49 percent to 37 percent that Crist isn't honest and trustworthy. Scott outdoes him, with 51 percent of Floridians saying he can't be trusted.

At present, the only race Crist and Scott are winning is the one to be the least-liked pair of candidates for governor in the country.

Margaret Carlson is a Bloomberg View columnist.

Should Christie run, contrast with Obama a plus

BY GEORGE F. WILL

NEWARK, N.J.

Gov. Chris Christie could be forgiven if he had chips on both shoulders as big as those shoulders.

This year, the first of his second term, has been overshadowed by often partisan investigations, more protracted than productive, of the involvement of several of his former aides — he fired them — in the closing of some access lanes to the George Washington Bridge.

Nevertheless, Christie today radiates serenity. His critics, including many Hillary Clinton enthusiasts, hoped the last 12 months would be for him a terrible, horrible, no good, very bad year. He has, however, thrived.

He won two elections last November. One was for a second term as governor, in which he received 60 percent of the vote, including 57 percent of the vote of 15 percent of Hispanics and 21 percent of African-Americans. The other election — which was, in its way, harder fought; his rivals included other potential presidential aspirants — was to become chairman of the Republican Governors Association.

In this capacity, Christie has been crisscrossing the country, campaigning for and distributing contributions to Republican gubernatorial candidates. And campaign-

Americans often elect presidents who conspicuously lack the perceived defect of the preceding president.

ing for other Republicans. He carried over into this year \$50 million the RGA had in its coffers, the most of any group, raising at least another \$50 million; by Nov. 4, he will have perhaps raised upward of another \$10 million. By then he will have been in more than 30 states in 11 months.

Coyness is not in Christie's repertoire, so regarding his 2016 intentions he says he will decide in 2015 and meanwhile will not disguise the obvious — that he is doing spade work that prepares the ground for a possible presidential run.

Republicans must ask each potential nominee: What brick can you remove from the Blue Wall? It is built from the 18 states and the District of Columbia, jurisdictions that have presided Democratic in at least six consecutive presidential elections and have, together, 242 electoral votes. To sharpen the question: Who can take his persona and message to, say, Philadelphia's suburbs? In a sense, Christie already has, twice. Running for governor required advertising on Philadelphia television.

He is a pro-life governor elected twice in a deep blue state to which he has delivered

\$2.35 billion in tax cuts, and in which the government budget is now less in real dollars than it was in fiscal 2008. To those who fault him for his positions on this or that, he amiably says: "If you're looking for someone you agree with 100 percent of the time, go home and look in the mirror, because you're it." And, he adds, if someone says he agrees with you completely, "He's lying."

He may, however, have taken a judicious step toward accommodating one passion of the Republican nominating electorate. In July, he established a commission "to review the effectiveness" of New Jersey's student assessments, "including the Common Core State Standards." This could be a means of stepping away from the Common Core, support for which will be a huge impediment for any Republican aspirant.

When asked whether he might be a wine that will not travel — whether his occasional pugnacity might not play nationwide, or seem presidential — he laughs, noting that during his recent trip to Mexico, members of the media traveling with him seemed puzzled by his sedate, diplomatic manner. He asked them, "Do you think I have only

one [golf] club, a driver, in my bag?"

During a 2008 Democratic candidates debate, Barack Obama said icily, "You're likable enough, Hillary." He is not so much anymore. Is she? Christie's strength against her might be the variable that most explains most presidential elections: likability.

Also, Americans often elect presidents who conspicuously lack the perceived defect of the preceding president (e.g., Jack Kennedy's youth contrasting with Dwight Eisenhower's age, Ronald Reagan's strength correcting for Jimmy Carter's weakness). Christie, who exudes executive authority, is the antithesis of today's bewildered incumbent floundering from the disappearing red line regarding Syria, to the HealthCare.gov debacle, to the Veterans Affairs scandals, to the no-one-tells-me-anything surprise about the Islamic State, to the Secret Service that cannot lock the White House's front door.

Christie the zealous political combatant is also, and first, a father, with two of his four children, 14 and 11, at home. This will influence his decision about 2016. But so, he says, will this: His wife, Mary Pat, does not want him sitting in the backyard, years hence, harboring regrets about a road not taken.

George F. Will is a member of Washington Post Writers Group.

AMERICAN ROUNDUP

Sleeper nearly crushed in garbage truck

WA SEATTLE — A homeless man who had been sleeping in a trash bin was nearly crushed when it was dumped into a garbage truck in Seattle.

The driver heard pounding from his truck about 5:30 a.m. Thursday and stopped compacting.

Television station KIRO reported emergency crews were called to the scene, but the man was able to climb out on his own. He was taken to Harborview Medical Center for an evaluation.

Woman says tweets got her kicked off plane

NH MANCHESTER

A New Hampshire woman said she was removed from a JetBlue flight after tweeting about the flight's delays, which included a pilot having to take a sobriety test.

Lisa Carter-Knight, of Exeter, was waiting to board a Boston-bound plane in Philadelphia on Tuesday. JetBlue said it was delayed when the pilot believed another passenger accused him of being intoxicated. JetBlue said as a precaution, a sobriety test was conducted; the pilot was cleared.

Carter-Knight made posts to Twitter about the pilot accusing passengers of questioning his sobriety and also posted pictures of the plane. The flight eventually left four hours behind schedule, but Carter-Knight was denied boarding.

WMUR-TV reported JetBlue said if it feels a customer isn't complying with safety instructions, exhibits objectionable behavior or causes conflict at the gate, the customer will be asked to deplane or will be denied boarding.

Carter-Knight, who said JetBlue claimed that she was being "unruly," got a refund.

Flamingo snatched from zoo injured, euthanized

MS HATTIESBURG — A 19-year-old college student on a scavenger hunt has been charged with snatching a Chilean Flamingo from a zoo in what police said was a prank gone wrong.

Hattiesburg police spokesman Lt. Jon Traxler said Devin Nottis of Pascagoula is charged with grand larceny. The University of Southern Mississippi student was arrested Wednesday night.

The executive director of the organization that runs the Hattiesburg Zoo said the female bird was taken at 1:08 a.m. Tuesday and was located several miles away. Rick Taylor said it was returned to the zoo and had to be put down because of its injuries.

Hattiesburg police said the students were on a scavenger hunt but Nottis took a flamingo instead of taking a picture of the bird.

Security cameras captured images of the kidnappers.

Tar-covered man on gas station roof arrested

FL DAYTONA BEACH — When police in Daytona



STEVE BISSON, SAVANNAH (Ga.) MORNING NEWS/AP

Marching in memory

Marchers follow a drummer down Louisville Road at sunrise Thursday in Savannah, Ga., following the path patriots took in the Battle of Savannah, fought on Oct. 9, 1779. At Battlefield Memorial Park, wreaths were laid in remembrance of the Revolutionary War battle.

Beach found a man covered in tar on the roof of a closed gas station before dawn, he told them he was visiting family.

They didn't believe it.

The Daytona News-Journal reported Thursday the 30-year-old man then tried to convince officers he was a repairman who was atop the Sunoco station at 3 a.m. Tuesday because he heard the air conditioners making noise. Officers didn't believe that one, either.

Finally, police said he told them he had been sleeping on the roof and had smeared tar on himself so he wouldn't be seen.

Police said that because he had a prying tool with him, they think he was a would-be burglar and arrested him on suspicion of attempted burglary of an unoccupied structure, possession of burglary tools and criminal mischief.

Mom who nursed after taking drugs back in jail

WA TACOMA — A woman accused of giving her daughter methamphetamine, cocaine and marijuana through breastfeeding is back in jail in Tacoma while she awaits trial on

a charge of endangerment with a controlled substance.

Iuni Moana Malo, 34, had been released to await trial after pleading not guilty.

She was booked back into the Pierce County Jail on Monday after failing to appear for a hearing.

She had gone to a hospital in July thinking she had smoked bad drugs. While she was there, the staff checked the 2-year-old, who tested positive for drugs.

In a letter to court requesting a new lawyer, Malo wrote she's a single mother of eight children with absentee fathers. She said

THE CENSUS



\$520

The amount of money a Pittsburgh-area woman is accused of stealing from nine people on jury duty while they were in the courtroom. The Allegheny County sheriff on Thursday charged Jawanda Tench, 38, of Swissvale, with stealing from the jurors' purses on Tuesday. Deputies reviewed surveillance video near the jury room and saw a woman who appeared to leave court papers sticking out of her pocket enter the jury room during the time the money would have been stolen. After reviewing records of recent arrests, investigators determined Tench had been in the courthouse that day after being arraigned and released on unrelated retail theft charges that morning.

a felony conviction would only make things worse.

Suit: Cold onion rings sparked attack

NM BLOOMFIELD — A New Mexico man is suing Burger King after he says a manager attacked him for complaining about cold onion rings.

KRQE-TV reported the lawsuit filed in state district court says Robert Deyapp was assaulted in June 2013 when he told a manager at the fast-food restaurant in the northwestern New Mexico city of Bloomfield about his cold order.

The lawsuit claims that when Deyapp asked for a refund, manager Francisco Berrera lunged at him with a stun gun and a switchblade.

Court records show Berrera later pleaded no contest to aggravated assault.

Prison guard pulls 3 people from burning car

MA ACUSHNET — A Massachusetts prison guard who pulled three people from a burning car shortly before it became engulfed said he didn't have time to think of his own safety.

Rui Gouveia, of Fairhaven, was on his way to the state prison in Bridgewater, where he works as a correctional officer, Tuesday night when a car passed him and crashed.

He said the crash was so severe that he thought the vehicle's occupants were dead.

He said he acted on instinct, afraid of an explosion, and pulled the vehicle's occupants through an open window because the doors were locked. The car burst into flames seconds later.

The car's occupants were ages 18, 19 and 20. Acushnet Fire Chief Kevin Gallagher said there is no doubt that Gouveia, 41, saved three lives.

From wire reports

LIFESTYLE

The Siren treatment

Seattle women create dating app to filter out creepy guys

By TRICIA ROMANO
The Seattle Times

In her years of dating, Sarah Z. Wexler, a Portland writer who edited the book "Awful First Dates: Hysterical, True, and Heartbreakingly Bad," has been the recipient of crude, overtly sexual opening lines. "I couldn't believe that was the first contact this man initiated with me — to think that that would ever work."

Surprise. It didn't. But that doesn't stop thousands of men from inundating women with messages in dating apps that are by turns gross, hilarious, objectifying and just plain sad.

She has also received "the carpet bomb" — the impersonal, copied-and-pasted form letter sent to hundreds of women at a time; the cheesy pickup line; and numerous illiterate greetings like, "Sup, gorus."

And there was the time when one guy used Google's Image search function to cyberstalk her.

"(He) wrote me, 'Hello, Sarah Z. Wexler.' He knew where I went to college," she said. "It felt like a big violation that I was potentially semi-anonymous and my name and professional stuff was something that someone could find by having access to my picture."

No wonder Susie Lee, a Seattle-based visual artist turned tech entrepreneur, created Siren, a dating app designed to protect women from scenarios like the ones Wexler experienced.

Lee, who'd never signed up for a dating site until she began researching the competition for Siren, was unnerved after receiving messages fetishizing her Asian ancestry. She partnered with Katrina Hess, a designer she had met on another project.

"I didn't feel safe on these sites. I felt really exposed," said Lee, who is Korean-American. "Especially as an Asian woman, you put your picture up there and suddenly like 'Asian fantasy' would come up."

Online dating is now virtually free of the stigma it once had, and Americans are taking to it in droves. According to "Dataclysm," the new book by OKCupid's co-founder, Christian Rudder, more than 55 million have registered for a dating site in the past three years. But that means more and more creeps are online, too. A 2012 experiment by Jon Millward, a data journalist, found that women were messaged 17 times more than men; the best-looking woman received 536 messages in four months, while the best-looking guy received only 38.



With Siren's unusual features, Lee hopes to change the nature of the messages and put women in the driver's seat, which is what Siren was originally going to be called. The free iPhone app, launched to a select market in Seattle in August (with an Android release coming shortly), allows women to peruse men's pictures and their answers to the "Questions of the Day" ("You found a magic lamp and get three wishes. What are they?") and view their Video Challenges ("Show us a hidden gem in Seattle"). If a woman is suitably impressed by a man's answers, she can make herself visible to him. Only then can he see what she looks like.

It's a far more thoughtful — and cautious — approach than the one taken by the dating app of the moment, Tinder, which is effectively a "hot or not" game, with little information beyond a few photos, age and volunteered biographical tidbits. And the implicit notion that it's a "hookup" app can be uncomfortable for some women.

Lee, 41, is an unusual candidate for an online-dating tech entrepreneur. A visual artist who works with sculpture, digital technology and video, with a master of fine arts degree and a background in science (she has a bachelor of science degree in molecular biophysics and biochemistry from Yale), she'd only just gotten her first iPhone in summer 2013 and had an "aha" moment after playing with Scruff, a gay male dating app on a friend's phone.

Curious, she signed up for dating sites like Plenty of Fish, OKCupid and Match, and was appalled by their tacky designs: "If you have any taste at all, how can you be on this thing?" she laughed.

And OKCupid's lengthy profile creation bored her. She wanted to make something that wasn't an eyesore or laborious to join. Indeed, Siren's slick opening screen is a sensual drop of dark ink floating in water; the profile creation is short and sweet.

She began working on it in earnest last year after meeting Hess, 37, who became

The biggest hurdle Siren faces is getting enough money and users to go viral. A tiny startup like Siren (seeded with funding from friends and family and Lee's own savings account, amounting to about \$400,000) faces incredibly stiff competition. Many of the largest sites, like Chemistry, OKCupid and Match — even Tinder, which presents itself like a startup — are owned by IAC, a huge company worth \$4.2 billion.

Siren is also up against people's innately shallow behavior: With only one photo for the profile picture, the app de-emphasizes the visual, in favor of wit and intelligence.

"If you only pick out cute guys, you're gonna have the same problem [as] on any other site," Lee said. "The question is how do you actually glean that and actually do the thing you do in real life?"

New York City online dating consultant Steve Dean, of Daterworking.com, isn't sure Siren's approach, while noble, will really work. "Tinder has proved that both sides are equally superficial," he said. And he praised Tinder's unique messaging protocol (users can correspond only if they both "like" each other). "Even though you see a lot of crap on the Internet about Tinder founders, the Tinder app itself is actually revolutionary. It was one of the first apps that put women fully in control," he said.

Still, Lee and Hess are betting that men are less shallow and want more reprieve. And they know that women want a little more flirtation than crude references. After all, Siren's motto is "Charm Someone's Pants Off."

"Before the pants off," it's more about charming someone," said Hess. "Be charming."



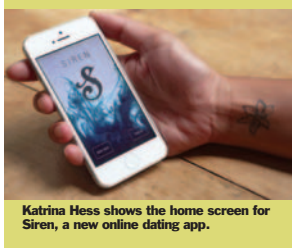
PHOTOS BY KEN LAMBERT, THE SEATTLE TIMES/MCT

Susie Lee, background, with Katrina Hess, created the Siren dating app which, according to its website, puts women in control of their visibility and encourages women to make the first move.

the app's lead designer and chief operating officer. The duo are now close friends who finish each other's sentences.

Lee and Hess (and by extension, Siren, which has another woman on the team of five) are an anomaly in the dating-app universe. Nearly all dating websites, including Tinder and Snapchat, are created by men. This might explain why so few dating sites consider the privacy and safety issues that women experience.

Lee and Hess are only just finding out if Siren's unique methodology works. Four hundred early adopters were invited in August; there are now 1,200 users, Lee says.



Katrina Hess shows the home screen for Siren, a new online dating app.

VIDEO GAMES



A new hack-and-slash quest

Despite co-op glitches, 'Hyrule Warriors' will entertain players for hours

By KYLE BOWERS

Special to Stars and Stripes

Whether your battles in the realm of Hyrule take you to the Great Deku Tree or Skyloft, crushing your enemies has never been more fun.

"Hyrule Warriors" takes players into the enchanting world depicted in Nintendo's "Legend of Zelda" games. But unlike most "Zelda" games — which offer a mix of platforming, fighting and puzzle-solving — this teen-rated game for the Wii U offers gameplay mechanics from the "Dynasty Warriors" franchise.



For those who are not familiar with "Dynasty Warriors," the combat series is set in the rich history of ancient China. Historical characters hack, slice and pound their way through wave after wave of enemies. The historical characters have their own unique attack combos and flashy finishing moves.

The producers did a fantastic job creating that same fast-paced "Dynasty Warriors" feel but with the lore and characters of the Hyrule universe.

The game lets players step into the shoes of many of their favorite characters as well as introduces a few new characters in a new storyline.

This is the first time that "Zelda" fans have been able to play as characters other

Overall grade: **B-**



than Link. The producers gave the game an astounding range of characters, including Impa and even Zelda herself. This allows the player to experience the lands of Hyrule in a new way through several new sets of eyes.

Instead of recycling or remodeling an old storyline, the producers opened up all the timelines of the Hyrule universe and combine them into a single, fluid tale.

However, unlike the "Dynasty Warriors" franchise, "Hyrule Warriors" does not have voice actors, except for the narration. The narrator gives brief story descriptions while each map is loading. This stays true to the "Legend of Zelda" franchise, which offers no voice acting.

In order to stay true to the "Dynasty Warriors" franchise, the player does not need to hack and slash through the minions of darkness alone.

While the story mode of "Hyrule Warriors" is only single-player, the free mode allows two players to fight enemies as a team. They can play any of the story missions that have already been completed with any of the characters that have been unlocked.

However, this is where one of the game's big drawbacks comes into play. Instead of using the standard split-screen format, one player gets to use the TV screen while the other player is forced to use the tiny screen of the Wii U gamepad. The gamepad can be disorienting at times and causes the players to feel disconnected from each other's gaming experience.

In addition, my teammate and I experience a good deal of latency when playing together. On the big screen, the biggest problem was that the avatar belonging to the small-screen player would not render until most, if not all, of the minions were killed. But the Wii U gamepad takes the problem one step further. The gamepad experienced latency with minions spawning and only 20 to 25 would render on the screen at one time. In addition, while the teammates are in the same location, the frame rate on the gamepad drops drastically when both players perform attack combos.

Even though the issues with the Wii U

gamepad can become tedious, the game overall is inexplicably fun and offers a vast variety of characters and game styles.

In conclusion, "Hyrule Warriors" will keep the player occupied for hours while they try to unlock more characters and uncover the mysteries that Hyrule has to offer this time.

Bottom line: B- "Hyrule Warriors" offers a fun mashup of the fantasy adventures of the "Legend of Zelda" and the hack-and-slash "Dynasty Warriors" series. Unfortunately, technical problems hurt the co-op experience.

Platform: Wii U

Online: zelda.com/hyrule-warriors



Photos courtesy of Nintendo

Join an elite band of heroes as they slash through wave after wave of enemies to defeat an evil sorceress in "Hyrule Warriors."



Many more staff-written game reviews at stripes.com/military-life

HEALTH & FITNESS

No two ways about it

Tandem bicycle riders need to be in sync — in movement and communication

By DES BIELER

The Washington Post

Bicycles can be good for commuting. They can also be good for communing (with nature). On a bicycle built for two, whether you commute or commune, you had better be good at communicating.

This point was driven home to me time and again as I spoke to tandem cycling enthusiasts. They're the people who ride those funny-looking bikes with the two seats, and if the folks to whom I talked had been a tandem might be because they have well-honed communication skills.

they have well-honed communication skills.

One way to look at tandem cycling is as one long trust exercise. You can also look at it as an exceedingly enjoyable, efficient way for two people to go on a bike ride together, but I'll come back to that in a bit.

The trust comes from the person in the back, known in tandem parlance as the stoker. If you're the stoker, as one person said, "you don't have any control over braking, steering or shifting a bike," which was an issue for her, a self-described "Type A personality," to overcome. Another person told me that being in the back "can be scary; it requires letting go, it requires trusting the person in front with your life."

The person in front is known as the captain. This person doesn't have to preface everything with "This is your captain speaking," but the captain had better do a lot of speaking, or else the stoker is in for some unpleasant surprises.

I was introduced to these unpleasant surprises by Larry Black, who runs Mount Airy Bicycles in Mount Airy, Md. Black is happy to not only show novices the ropes but also let them borrow a tandem for a test ride of up to a couple of hours.

I arrived in Mount Airy with my wife, ready to try tandem biking for the first time. Because I have far more experience cycling than she does, there was no doubt that I would be the captain.

But before we went anywhere,

Black made a point of showing me how the other half lives.

Black took me on what he calls a "stoker empathy lesson," literally giving me a back-row seat for all the things that can ruin a stoker's day. There were several no-nos: wiggling the bike; giving an incorrect turn signal; pedaling quickly, then going into "leg freeze"; a sudden stop; and hitting a pothole without warning.

That last one was the most comically cited reason for communication breakdown.

There were several no-nos: wiggling the bike; giving an incorrect turn signal; pedaling quickly, then going into "leg freeze"; a sudden stop; and hitting a pothole without warning.

There were several no-nos: wiggling the bike; giving an incorrect turn signal; pedaling quickly, then going into "leg freeze"; a sudden stop; and hitting a pothole without warning.

There were several no-nos: wiggling the bike; giving an incorrect turn signal; pedaling quickly, then going into "leg freeze"; a sudden stop; and hitting a pothole without warning.

There were several no-nos: wiggling the bike; giving an incorrect turn signal; pedaling quickly, then going into "leg freeze"; a sudden stop; and hitting a pothole without warning.

There were several no-nos: wiggling the bike; giving an incorrect turn signal; pedaling quickly, then going into "leg freeze"; a sudden stop; and hitting a pothole without warning.

There were several no-nos: wiggling the bike; giving an incorrect turn signal; pedaling quickly, then going into "leg freeze"; a sudden stop; and hitting a pothole without warning.

tion. Something about the design of a tandem provides a bigger jolt to the back seat when the bike hits a bump, a jolt made all the more unpleasant if it comes without warning. Captains should also announce gear shifts and braking.

I found this out on my test ride. After Black had shown us the proper way to get going (captain gets on first, then holds the bike steady as the stoker mounts, then the stoker positions the two right pedals so that both drive down on them), we took a few laps around the parking lot. Right away I realized that I had to be a lot faster in calling out bumps.

When we started to go uphill, I did my usual cyclist move of ramping up my pedaling. Unfortunately, I had not informed my wife of said move, and she lost her footing. She did find some choice words on the subject.

I soon started to get the hang of verbalizing my intentions, and as we began to coordinate our movements better, the sailing got smoother. Todd Stansbury, a Falls Church, Va., resident and husband of the Type A personality cited earlier, said that "the keys for us have really been communication, coordination and compromise." He added, "The golden rule of tandeming is that the stoker is always right."

Stansbury fits what I would consider the classic mold of a captain: bigger, and a more experienced biker, than the stoker. Size matters up front for a couple of reasons, one being that the stronger cyclist can better tolerate the headwinds. Another reason, pointed out by Rich Tepel, an official with the group Potomac Pedalers, is that operating a tandem takes more arm and grip strength than does riding a single bike (or, as some tandemers amusingly call it, a "half-bike"). Tepel likened it to "driving a truck compared to driving a car," and, indeed, the greater weight of a tandem can be felt in the front handlebars, and especially in braking, which, as with a truck, is a slower process.

On single bikes, Stansbury's wife, Patti Cary, says she "was fidgeting and puffing to keep up with him." The tandem neatly solved this problem by putting them on the same machine — as long as each was willing to compromise.

"It enables me to go on rides that I never would have challenged myself to go on as a single biker," Cary said.

Desiree H.P. Sedgwick, of Spartanburg, S.C., agrees. "A tandem is very appealing as an equalizer between strong and weak riders," she said via email. "I am not a spinner," she said, but her partner is. "As a result, we have learned to accommodate one another's riding preferences."

If tandem cycling sounds like an elaborate, aerobic compatibility test, well, it kind of is. Stansbury mentioned the adage a bike retailer told him: "Wherever your relationship is going, your tandem will get you there faster."

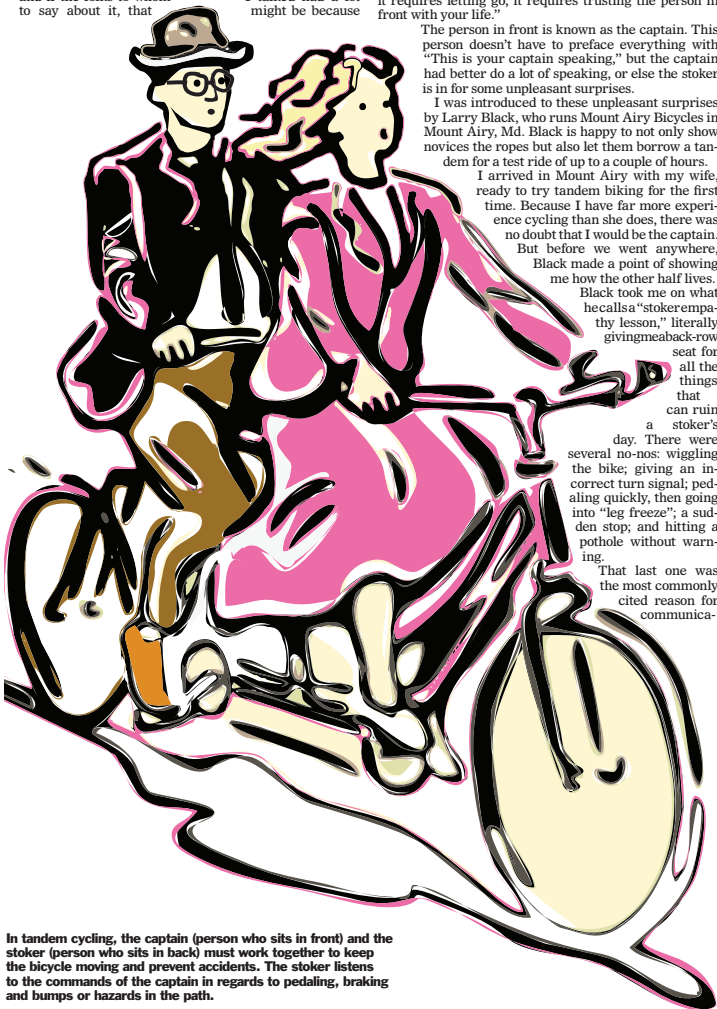
For Mary Gersmelina, a Washington resident and cycling blogger, where her tandem took her was to wedded bliss. "My husband and I met on a tandem ride. We did a tandem century [100-mile ride] together as our first date," she said. "I had never been on a tandem before. It's amazing to me now, like, 'What was I thinking?'"

However, Gersmelina admitted, she and her husband still have some irritation-filled moments on rides. At those times, they hold what they call "Tandem Team Meetings," in order to "figure out how to address that in a constructive way, so that you're still having a good time together and you're not nagging at each other."

Tandems can go faster than single bikes on flat surfaces and down hills, so couples can take on longer rides. The flip side is that tandems are harder to get uphill, which Stansbury attributes to having "a lot of mass" on the bike. Tepel postulated that it might have more to do with pedaling cadences that are slightly out of sync.

Either way, there's some suffering involved, but it's a unique, and rewarding, form of shared suffering.

"The rides that we've done, it's great to have done them just in and of themselves, but it makes it even more awesome that you were able to share it, and do it all literally in tandem with another person," Gersmelina said. "It just seems to make your accomplishment that much more special."



In tandem cycling, the captain (person who sits in front) and the stoker (person who sits in back) must work together to keep the bicycle moving and prevent accidents. The stoker listens to the commands of the captain in regards to pedaling, braking and bumps or hazards in the path.

ENTERTAINMENT

Jennifer Love Hewitt on 'Criminal Minds':

A winding path to TV stardom

By EMILY YAHN
The Washington Post

Here's a milestone that might remind you of your own mortality: Jennifer Love Hewitt shot to fame on Fox drama "Party of Five" — (dramatic pause) — almost 20 years ago.

We know! It seems like just yesterday that JLH was TV's new It Girl, gracing magazine covers with then-boyfriend Carson Daly, even cracking the pop charts as a singer.

Her attempt at grown-up movie stardom never really

took off, though, beyond the "I Know What You Did Last Summer" and "Garfield" films.

Unbowed, she redevoted herself to television long before it became an acceptable landing place for other big-screen refugees.

It was a shrewd choice that paid off: Hewitt has now been rewarded with a regular role on "Criminal Minds." Here's a look back and a step-by-step guide to how she won the TV industry lottery:

**Step 1: Make your mark
on a red-hot teen show (1995 to 2000)**

With her role as Sarah on the low-rated but cult favorite "Party of Five," Hewitt (16 when she joined the cast) became a brand name for a savvy young audience, making her a go-to pick for guest spots on other shows: Her appearance on "Boy Meets World" as Jennifer Love Fefferman is still one of the show's classic episodes.

Step 2: Attempt a spin-off (1999)

"Time of Your Life" — where Sarah moves to New York — flamed out quickly but nonetheless established her as the break-out star from "Party of Five."

Step 3: Try the pop princess route (1999 to 2002)

"How Do I Deal?" "BareNaked?" ... not ringing a bell? So, they didn't become pop standards, but they got radio play at the turn of the century — and during a relatively quiet moment in her acting career, the videos kept one of Hollywood's most fetching physiques in the public eye. See also her cameos in the LFO ("Girl on TV") and Enrique Iglesias ("Hero") music videos.

Step 4: A shot at the big leagues (1997 to 2002)

She headlined a series of teen-centric movies ("I Know What You Did Last Summer," "Can't Hardly Wait," "Heartbreakers"), but none led to serious grown-up roles or lasting stardom. Time to retrench!

Step 5: Date strategically

Throughout her career, JLH stayed in the magazines by dating a list of eligible Hollywood bachelors: Joey Lawrence, Jamie Kennedy, John Mayer (supposedly inspiring his hit "Your Body is a Wonderland"). She finally settled down last year with actor Brian Hallisay and after a much-chronicled pregnancy, gave birth to her daughter, Autumn.

Step 6: Return to TV (2005 to 2010)

Network TV was happy to have her back, and "The Ghost Whisperer" — she starred as the antiques dealer who can communicate with the dead — was a surprise long-running hit for CBS, even when relegated to Friday nights.

**Step 7: Go for controversy with a cable drama
(2012 to 2013)**

Nothing gets buzz like a role as a lingerie-wearing masseuse who goes the extra mile to please her clients. "The Client List," based loosely on a real-life Texas massage parlor/bordello, did well for the Lifetime network — and hey, if viewers were tuning in for nothing more than titillation, that was hardly a problem. The drama only lasted two seasons, however, reportedly canceled after Lifetime balked when Hewitt, an executive producer, tried to get a bigger role for Hallisay, then her co-star and fiancé.

**Step 8: Step up to a (hopefully) long-running role on a
blue-chip procedural (2014)**

"Criminal Minds" is an aging show in its 10th season, but no matter. CBS signed Hewitt amid much hype to star as Kate Callahan, a top agent joining the FBI's Behavior Analysis Unit to help crack all kinds of gory cases.

Jennifer Love Hewitt plays an FBI undercover agent who joins the team on "Criminal Minds."

CBS



MOVIES

'The Judge' a family affair for Robert Downey Jr.

By DERRIK J. LANG
The Associated Press

Robert Downey Jr. thinks courtrooms are dull.

That didn't stop the "Avengers" leading man from landing on "The Judge" as the inaugural film from his production company Team Downey, which he formed with his wife, Susan. Other than the 2010 buddy comedy "Due Date," the legal family drama marks Downey's first movie in five years that doesn't star the 49-year-old actor as either Iron Man or Sherlock Holmes.

In the film, conceived of and directed by "Wedding Crashers" filmmaker David Dobkin, Downey plays a Chicago lawyer who returns to his small Indiana hometown to attend his mother's funeral. While there, Downey's stubborn motor-mouth becomes enmeshed in a criminal case involving his more stubborn father, the town's judge, portrayed by Robert Duvall.

"I've done lawyers before, and it's like, 'Dude, really? Courtrooms? So boring,'" Downey recently acknowledged over a cup of coffee. "The idea David (Dobkin) had was that a lawyer would be able to get his father — when he's sworn in — to tell the truth. How could you not take advantage of that, with his life on the line and all the stuff that's happened between them?"

After saving the world as Tony Stark in four Marvel films, Downey said he wasn't necessarily looking to make the 180-degree turn that he does in "The Judge." (Besides, Iron Man will be back in next year's "Avengers" installment.) Downey and Susan, a longtime producer he first met on the set of the 2003 thriller "Gothika," were merely drawn to the story.

"I think we're a good partnership," he said. "She works really closely with the director, as do I, obviously. She's really smart, pretty and calm — for the most part. That's just a winning combination. I've seen this before with directors who have partners that produce. You just see this symbiosis between them, and you go, 'Oh, I get why they do this together.'"

Dobkin, known for goofy comedies like "Fred Claus" and "The Change-Up," always envisioned Downey in the role.

"The first week this story came to me, I started writing it, and I first thought of Robert," said Dobkin, who was initially inspired by the loss of his own mother. "When I brought (screenwriter) Nick Schenk on, I told him this was for Robert. Everyone wrote toward Robert, and then obviously Robert got involved and wrote toward Robert. The movie was always going to be him."

While the Downeys, according to Downey, bear no resemblance to the Palmers in "The Judge," life still managed to imitate art. Downey's mother died Sept. 22. The once out-of-control actor recalled in a Facebook tribute last week how his "ball buster" mom inspired him to quit drugs.

In a more upbeat example of "The Judge" mirroring his own life, Downey plays father to a spunky daughter in the film. Downey and his wife are expecting their second child, a daughter, next month. Their son, Exton, is 2 years old, while Downey's first son, Indio, is 21.

When asked about the impending arrival of his first-ever daughter, Downey seemed undeterred.

"The closer you get to having a kid, the less daunting it becomes because you're just like, 'OK. I can't take the suspense anymore. I've got to see her,'" said Downey. "And a lot of it is just what's been going on for cons, which is you see something that is completely helpless without you, and you show up."

Robert Downey Jr. stars in the drama "The Judge." His wife, Susan, co-produced the film.

STEVE C. MITCHELL, INVISION FOR WARNER BROS./AP



*Looking for a new field
where you can stand out?*

STARS  STRIPES®

Veteran's Job Center

veteransjob.stripes.com

Find your next opportunity
with employers who actively
seek the experience of
former military.

Post your resume and access
25,000 jobs for free.



BUSINESS/WEATHER

Olive Garden seen through pasta pass

By Candice Choi
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — The “Never Ending Pasta Pass” card from Olive Garden not only promised weeks of unlimited pasta but a look into why the chain is fighting to hold onto customers.

The Italian-themed chain sold the \$100 card last month that allowed 1,000 people to dine on endless pasta, breadsticks, soup and salad for 49 days. The passes sold out in less than an hour, with some turning up on eBay for hundreds of dollars.

It was a successful publicity stunt for Olive Garden’s parent company, Darden Restaurants. But the company’s troubles aren’t over: It’s fighting to hold onto customers, with sales at its flagship chain declining for each of the past three years.

A hedge fund last month shareholders a 294-page treatise criticizing Darden’s management as part of a push to take control of the board at the company’s annual meeting on Friday.

nual meeting on Friday.

To get a firsthand look at Olive Garden’s troubles, I paid for a Pasta Pass. I mostly enjoyed my meals, but the reactions of my companions shed some light on why the chain is struggling. Some think the menu is overwhelming and the service is slow. Others feed bad about eating all the empty calories.

The food

Olive Garden has become a punch line in some circles that don’t see it as serving authentic Italian food. One night, I asked my fellow diners what they thought about the criticism.

Eric McGarvey, 40, said he considers Olive Garden’s food to be “American Italian” and likes the consistency it provides.

I found the food to be tasty, too, if basic. My main complaint is that the noodles are on the soft side, but others might not prefer their pasta al dente. The bigger issue is nutrition; my go-to dish of cork-

screw pasta with meat sauce and meatballs probably wasn’t the best option. The dish is 920 calories.

Olive Garden did add a “Lighter Italian Fare” two years ago with options that include a chicken breast served with potatoes and spinach at 550 calories. But those aren’t part of the pasta promotion.

That does, however, bring me to another problem Olive Garden has: an overwhelming number of options. Executives acknowledge the need to simplify the menu, which has been criticized for mushrooming to nearly 100 items, including burgers. Still, Darden president Eugene Lee recently said it’s hard deciding what to get rid of because “everybody has their favorite.”

The prices

The other common complaint among my companions was that the prices are too high, with dishes like Fettuccine Alfredo costing \$18. A steak and potatoes dish cost \$30.

Olive Garden acknowledges

it needs to get better at offering value. In fact, the Pasta Pass was intended to promote its Never Ending Pasta Bowl, which lets people eat as much pasta as they want in one sitting for \$9.99.

The Never Ending Pasta Bowl is Olive Garden’s most popular deal, but I never saw it advertised in the restaurants. That’s likely because the chain doesn’t want to distract customers who are likely to pay more for something on the regular menu.

MARKET WATCH

Oct. 9, 2014

Dow Jones **-334.97**

Industrials 16,659.25

Nasdaq **-90.25**

Composite 4,378.34

Standard & Poor’s 500 1,928.21

Russell **-29.13**

2000 1,067.99

EXCHANGE RATES

Military rates	
Euro costs (Oct. 13)	\$1.2992
Dollar buys (Oct. 13)	€0.7697
British pound (Oct. 13)	\$1.6165
Japanese yen (Oct. 13)	¥105.00
South Korean won (Oct. 13)	₩1,045.00

Commercial rates

Bahrain (Dinar)	0.3771
British pound	\$1.6036
Canada (dollar)	1.1191
China (yuan)	6.1313
Denmark (crown)	5.8888
Egypt (pound)	7.1525
Euro	\$1.2640/0.7911
Hong Kong (dollar)	7.7591
Hungary (Forint)	241.93
Israel (sheqel)	3.7283
Japan (Yen)	107.89
Kuwait (Dinar)	0.2895
Norway (kroner)	6.5208
Philippines (Peso)	44.82
Poland (Zloty)	3.31
Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	3.7511
Singapore (dollar)	1.2732
South Korea (Won)	1,070.57
Switzerland (Franc)	0.9570
Taiwan (dollar)	32.43
Turkey (Lira)	2.2817

(Military exchange rates are those available to customers at military banking facilities in the country of issuance for Japan, South Korea, Germany, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom. For nonlocal currency exchange rates (i.e., British pounds, Swiss francs, etc.), which with your local military banking facility. Commercial rates are interbank rates provided for reference when buying currency. All figures are foreign currencies to one dollar, except for the British pound, which is represented in dollars-to-pound, and the euro, which is dollars-to-euro.)

INTEREST RATES

Prime rate	3.25
3-month bill	0.09
6-month bill	0.09
30-year bond	3.05

WEATHER OUTLOOK



Saturday's US temperatures

City	Hi	Lo	Wthr	City	Hi	Lo	Wthr	City	Hi	Lo	Wthr	City	Hi	Lo	Wthr
Ableene, Texas	69	53	Cldy	Chattanooga	78	64	Rain	Fort Wayne	57	38	PCldy	Louisville	62	50	Cldy
Akron, Ohio	56	41	Cldy	Cheney	69	39	Cldy	Fresno	89	62	Cldy	Lubbock	67	49	Cldy
Albany, N.Y.	61	40	Cldy	Chicago	57	40	Cldy	Goodland	64	38	PCldy	Macon	87	63	PCldy
Albuquerque	72	49	PCldy	Cincinnati	59	45	Cldy	Grand Junction	70	45	Cldy	Madison	85	33	Cir
Allentown, Pa.	63	48	Cldy	Cleveland	55	44	PCldy	Grand Rapids	54	32	PCldy	Medford	75	49	Cldy
Amarillo	67	43	Cldy	Colorado Springs	67	38	PCldy	Great Falls	65	49	Cir	Memphis	67	61	Rain
Anchorage	67	43	Cldy	Columbia, S.C.	86	65	Cldy	Green Bay	63	32	Cldy	Miami Beach	88	77	PCldy
Ashville	75	61	Cldy	Columbus, Ga.	87	67	PCldy	Harrisburg	62	48	Rain	Milwaukee	53	40	Cir
Atlanta	82	67	Cldy	Columbus, Ohio	59	44	PCldy	Hartford	60	46	Cldy	Mpls-St Paul	56	33	Cir
Atlantic City	61	56	Rain	Concord, N.H.	61	38	Cldy	Helena	65	46	Cldy	Missoula	62	44	Rain
Austin	81	62	Rain	Concord, N.H.	61	38	Cldy	Honolulu	87	74	Cldy	Monterey	66	53	Cldy
Baltimore	65	52	Rain	Corpus Christi	89	77	PCldy	Houston	86	72	Rain	Montgomery	88	66	PCldy
Baton Rouge	87	69	PCldy	Cape Canaveral	89	77	PCldy	Huntsville	78	66	Cldy	Nashville	68	59	Rain
Bilings	72	49	PCldy	Charleston, S.C.	82	69	Rain	Indianapolis	60	43	PCldy	New Orleans	86	72	PCldy
Birmingham	82	66	Cldy	Chicago	57	40	Cldy	Jacksonville	88	66	PCldy	New York City	63	49	Rain
Bismarck	68	38	PCldy	Cincinnati	59	45	Cldy	Juneau	51	48	Cir	Newark	65	49	Cldy
Boise	71	48	Cldy	Cleveland	55	44	PCldy	Kansas City	58	40	Cldy	Norfolk, Va.	72	67	Cldy
Boston	57	48	Rain	Colorado Springs	67	38	PCldy	Key West	88	62	PCldy	North Platte	65	35	Cir
Bridgeport	89	78	Cldy	Columbia, S.C.	86	65	Cldy	Knoxville	75	58	Rain	Oakland	90	70	PCldy
Brownsville	89	78	Cldy	Concord, N.H.	61	38	Cldy	Las Vegas	90	66	Cldy	Paducah	81	50	Rain
Buffalo	53	40	Cldy	Corpus Christi	89	77	PCldy	Las Vegas	90	66	Cldy	Pendleton	72	49	Cldy
Burlington, Vt.	57	39	Cldy	Dallas-Ft. Worth	82	69	Rain	Lincoln	61	36	Cir	Pensacola	69	49	PCldy
Caribou, Maine	54	36	Cldy	Denver	73	40	Cldy	Little Rock	68	43	Rain	Philadelphia	63	48	Rain
Charleston, S.C.	87	65	PCldy	Des Moines	59	35	Cir	Los Angeles	84	63	Cir	Pittsburgh	58	41	Cldy
Charleston, W.Va.	65	52	Cldy	Detroit	68	38	PCldy	Los Angeles	84	63	Cir				
Charlotte, N.C.	82	66	Cldy	Duluth	52	33	Cldy								

The weather is provided by the American Forces Network Weather Center, 2nd Weather Squadron at Offutt Air Force Base, Neb.

National temperature extremes
Hi: Thurs., 100, Death Valley, Calif.
Lo: Thurs., 19, Frostburg, Minn., and Langdon, N.D.

STARS AND STRIPES

DAILY HEADLINES



Sign up to get
the top stories
of the day,
emailed right
to your inbox, every day!

TODAY'S TOP HEADLINES FROM STARS AND STRIPES.

STARS AND STRIPES

WEEKLY UPDATE



Subscribe to get each week's
most important stories, along
with other military news of
note from bases around the world.

STARS AND STRIPES OFFERS A SUMMARY
OF THE LEADING STORIES OF THE WEEK.



Get your news at: stripes.com/newsletters

Frazz



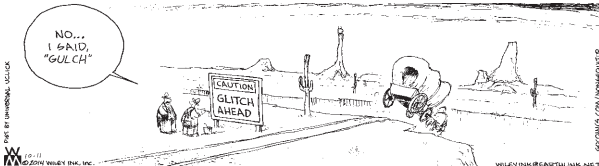
Dilbert



Pearls Before Swine



Non Sequitur



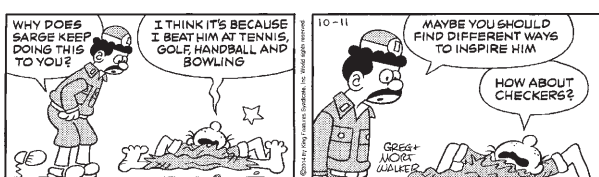
Candorville



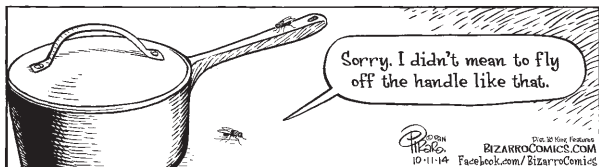
Get Fuzzy



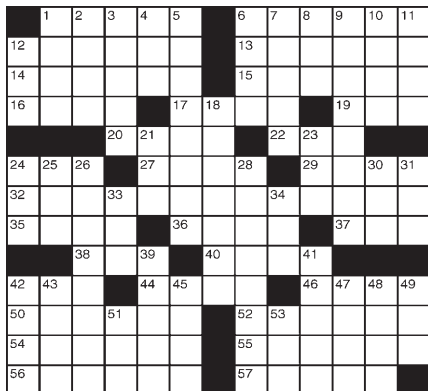
Beetle Bailey



Bizarro



Eugene Sheffer Crossword



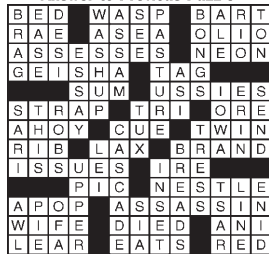
ACROSS

- 1 Hall's singing partner
- 6 Pancreas and thyroid
- 12 Refer (to)
- 13 With maximal effort
- 14 Zigzag downhill
- 15 Comfortably warm
- 16 Byron of "Mythbusters"
- 17 Do as you're told
- 19 CBS logo
- 20 Yank
- 22 Old man
- 24 Billy Joel's "— to Extremes"
- 27 Resumes
- 29 Place
- 32 Whittlers' tools
- 35 Rim
- 36 Writer James
- 37 — out (barely manage)
- 38 Rep.
- 40 Exile isle
- 42 Baltimore news-paper
- 44 Shrek, for one
- 46 European capital city
- 50 Small circle of friends
- 52 Dentist's least favorite sauce?
- 54 Questionable

DOWN

- 55 Do to do
- 56 Upholstery fabric
- 57 Approaches
- 28 Life form
- 28 Anatomy class display
- 30 Comic-strip shout
- 31 Handle
- 33 Be a couch potato
- 34 Beak
- 39 Goes sightseeing
- 41 Heart line
- 42 Gulf War missile
- 43 Radius neighbor
- 45 Techie, stereotypically
- 47 Celeb
- 48 Washrooms, for short
- 49 Cinnabar or galena
- 51 Sine-non link
- 53 Expert

Answer to Previous Puzzle



10-11

CRYPTOQUIP

YOGY TEPYEK OGZ YKECSQW
TJZYJBFCJZOJBF TJRRWKWBY
ZEKYZ ER SKCJZWZ. JY'Z

PEBYCZJEB PEBRCZJEB.
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: PART OF THE UNIVERSE HAVING PLANETS FULLY INHABITED BY ACADEMIC TYPES: THE SCHOLAR SYSTEM.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: R equals F

SPORTS BRIEFS/AUTO RACING



DENIS POROY/AP

New York Jets quarterback Michael Vick blamed himself for not being prepared to lead the Jets when he was called upon to replace struggling starter Geno Smith last Sunday after halftime against the Chargers in San Diego. Despite criticism leveled at the quarterback from fans and media, New York head coach Rex Ryan applauded Vick's honesty.

Briefly

Jets' Ryan praises Vick

BY DENNIS WASZAK JR.
The Associated Press

FLORHAM PARK, N.J. — Michael Vick pointed the finger squarely at himself.

The New York Jets' backup quarterback was stunningly critical Wednesday when he acknowledged that he could've done a better job of getting ready to play last Sunday. The comments drew the ire of fans and the media — and kudos from his head coach.

"When Mike looked at it," Rex Ryan said Thursday, "he had the guts to say, 'You know what? Maybe, I could have done more. I could have prepared better.'"

Rather than be alarmed by Vick's admission, Ryan applauded the quarterback's honesty.

"I think the way I challenge the team, in fact, this is exactly what I wanted," Ryan said. "I want guys to take a stand."

■ On an NFL news:

Browns Pro Bowl cornerback Joe Haden was back on the practice field Friday after missing two days with a hip injury.

Haden's return on Friday increases the chance he'll play Sunday against the Pittsburgh Steelers. He got hurt last week in Cleveland's comeback win at Tennessee but did not miss a snap.

Also, Browns starting line-backer Paul Kruger missed his second straight practice with what the team is listing as a back injury. It's not clear when Kruger got hurt.

Stolen '85 World Series banner returned

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — A Wisconsin banker has returned a banner he stole from Royals Stadium during the 1985 World Series.

Jerry Kuehl, 50, was a senior at University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire when his roommate scored World Series tickets from an aunt. Kuehl, of Chippewa Falls, Wis., told The Kansas City Star that even though he was a Milwaukee Brewers fan, he cheered for the Royals in their 3-1 loss to the St. Louis Cardinals.

Kansas City went on to win the World Series in a seven-game thriller.

After the game, Kuehl was standing near the foul pole where the 8-foot-long bunting, with an eagle beneath the word "Welcome," flapped. Kuehl couldn't resist. He took the flag off the rail and folded it beneath his jacket.

The stolen souvenir hung above bunk beds in Kuehl's dorm, and after he graduated, he stored it on a shelf in his basement. Eventually, he started to feel guilty.

So when the Royals won the Sept. 30 wild card game 9-8 against the Oakland Athletics, Kuehl packed the banner into a FedEx box addressed to Kauffman Stadium and sent it along with a letter confessing his crime. He enclosed a \$250 check to Royals Charities as restitution.

"I'm having fun all over again," he said. "And this time for good reasons, not bad."

In other baseball news:

■ St. Louis Cardinals manager Mike Matheny says rumors that Adam Wainwright is hurt are overblown.

Matheny is sticking with the same rotation that clicked in the first round, and Wainwright, the 20-game winner, is set to pitch Game 1 of the National League Championship Series against the San Francisco Giants.

■ J.J. Hardy signed a \$40 million, three-year contract with the Orioles on Thursday night, the eve of Baltimore's first appearance in the AL Championship Series since 1997.

The contract, which comes with an option for 2018, goes into effect after his current deal expires at the end of this season.

Nadal will remain on antibiotics for 4-5 days

MADRID — Rafael Nadal will stay on antibiotics for appendicitis for at least five more days after seeing a Spanish tennis federation doctor on Thursday in Barcelona on his way home to Mallorca.

Nadal began feeling abdominal pain in Shanghai last Saturday, and the appendicitis was diagnosed at a hospital the following day. The pain left him bedridden and unable to eat, but antibiotics killed the pain, reduced inflammation, and encouraged him to practice and play.

He said in Shanghai that he hoped to put off surgery until after the ATP Finals from Nov. 9-16 in London.

Busch takes Charlotte pole as JGR surges

BY JENNA FRYER
The Associated Press

CONCORD, N.C. — Kyle Busch claimed the pole position on Thursday for Saturday's NASCAR Sprint Cup race at Charlotte Motor Speedway, while his Joe Gibbs Racing teammate Denny Hamlin qualified his Toyota third.

Wedged in the middle was Jeff Gordon of Hendrick Motorsports in his Chevrolet.

"We're edging our way to the top, but anything can happen in this game," Busch said. "It's a fickle business. You've got to take things one step at a time."

Such is the nature of NASCAR's new elimination format in the Chase for the Sprint Cup championship. Four drivers are eliminated every three races, and several top names are in trouble as they head into the second race of the second round. Six-time and defending NASCAR champion Jimmie Johnson, Dale Earnhardt Jr. and Brad Keselowski go into Saturday's race needing very strong runs to give themselves breathing room headed into next week's elimination race at Talladega.

Two of the three failed to make it into the final round of Thursday's qualifying. Johnson, winner of the Coca-Cola 600 here in May, had to abandon his first qualifying attempt and squeaked into the second round with a late run.

He then failed to make it out of the second round. Johnson will

start 21st and is ranked last in the 12-driver Chase field.

"Just didn't have the speed there on that final run," Johnson said. "It's disappointing. There's no way around it."

Also surprising was that both Keselowski and Joey Logano, two of the top qualifiers all season, failed to advance into the final round. It's only the second time this season both Penske cars have failed to make it to the final round of qualifying.

Logano will start 13th with Keselowski 17th. Logano won last week to earn an automatic berth into the third round, and Keselowski was dominant in the first round of the Chase but is currently ranked 10th in the field.

Earnhardt did make it into the final round, along with three other championship-eligible drivers. Ryan Newman qualified fifth, Kevin Harvick was seventh, Earnhardt was ninth and Carl Edwards 10th.

It was a strong day for Stewart-Haas Racing, which spent two days testing at Charlotte last week. Harvick, Tony Stewart and Kurt Busch were among the fastest four drivers in Thursday practice, and they showed their speed throughout the three qualifying rounds.

Kurt Busch will start 11th and Harvick seventh. Stewart will lead the SHR contingent from the fourth starting spot, his best qualifying effort in the seven races he's entered since sitting out three following the death of sprint car driver Kevin Ward Jr.



TERRY RENN/AP

Kyle Busch looks from the garage area before practice for Saturday's NASCAR Bank of America 500 Sprint Cup Series race at Charlotte Motor Speedway in Concord, N.C., on Thursday.

AUTO RACING



TERRY RENNA/AP

Dale Earnhardt Jr. is still seeking his first Sprint Cup championship as he turned 40 on Friday.

There's not much left for Junior to do at 40

BY GEORGE DIAZ
Orlando Sentinel

In another place in time, he could have been a service manager at a Chevy dealership in North Carolina, offering you coffee and a doughnut with a bit of a Southern twang. "Hello, my name is Dale Earnhardt Jr."

Reality offers a more poignant and entertaining story as "Junior" celebrated his 40th birthday Friday.

There are no regrets about career choices. He has gone from the prodigal son in a fire suit to — just like his daddy — the most popular driver in auto racing. He's a NASCAR blue blood without the pretentious arrogance or entitlement issues.

Dale Earnhardt Sr., never the touchy-feely type, didn't have father-son conversations about the future. He provided a good life, material things, and left it at that. Junior considered other options — working in a local car dealership came to mind — but he eventually settled into the family business 23 years ago. A lot of things were left unsaid.

"He wasn't a life-lessons kind of guy," Earnhardt Jr. told the Orlando Sentinel. "He worked really hard and expected everybody else to work hard. He didn't like anybody to lie to him. And if he asked you to do something, he expected you to do it. He was a pretty straightforward guy."

A crash on the final lap of the Daytona 500 in 2001 took the life of NASCAR's beloved Earnhardt. By then, Junior had found his way onto NASCAR tracks and proved he belonged.

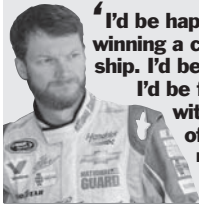
But his father's death forced Junior — as always — to sort things out by himself.

Consumed by grief, he considered quitting the sport but mustered the strength to continue racing.

It's worked out fine. He's in a good place. Check that — a great place.

He has found a stabilizing influence and true love in girlfriend Amy Reimann. And he's contending for his first NASCAR Sprint Cup title, hopeful of making the final cut of four drivers who will race for the title at Homestead in November.

"I wouldn't have anything else in life that I'd



I'd be happy about winning a championship. I'd be complete. I'd be finished with any kind of quest.

Dale Earnhardt Jr.
NASCAR driver on life after 40

want," he said. "That might be a little bit sad. I'd be happy about winning a championship. I'd be complete. I'd be finished with any kind of quest."

Imagine hitting 40 and having your bucket list checked off permanently.

Junior is also a reluctant hero, a guy the NASCAR Nation leans on for the visceral thrill of checkered-flag Sundays. He has been voted the most popular driver in the sport 11 consecutive years.

He won a rain-delayed Daytona 500 in February to start the season. In the hours that followed he finally joined Twitter, and his first tweet was a picture of himself in front of a statue of his dad.

"Look who I ran into at the Daytona Experience. Dad's Happy!" Earnhardt tweeted.

Within hours, he had 231,459 followers. Today he has nearly 780,000.

That segued into a picture-perfect season with two more wins at Pocono, Pa. Well, it was perfect until a wreck at Kansas last weekend mucked things up.

But like his daddy, Junior is a racer first and foremost. And Friday, he woke up as one of the old guys in the sport. His teammate Jeff Gordon is 43. So is Tony Stewart. Matt Kenseth is 42.

Junior is right there with them, now representing an older generation of NASCAR stars.

Dale Jr., elder statesman.

Around the tracks

NASCAR SPRINT CUP

This week: Bank of America 500 at Concord, N.C.

Track: Charlotte Motor Speedway (oval, 1.5 miles).

Race distance: 501 miles, 334 laps.

TV: AFN-Xtra, 1:30 a.m. Sunday, Central European Time.

Last year: Brad Keselowski raced to his lone 2013 victory.

Last week: Joey Logano won at Kansas Speedway to earn a spot in the third round of the Chase for the Sprint Cup. Logano also won the Chase race at New Hampshire and has five victories this year.

Next race: Geico 500, Oct. 19, Talladega Superspeedway, Talladega, Ala.

Online: nascar.com

POINTS STANDINGS

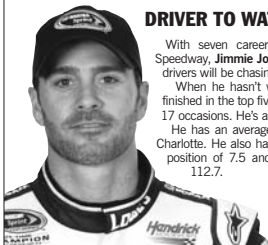
1. Joey Logano	3,048
2. Kyle Busch	3,042
3. Carl Edwards	3,039
4. Ryan Newman	3,039
5. Denny Hamlin	3,037
6. Kevin Harvick	3,033
7. Matt Kenseth	3,031
8. Jeff Gordon	3,031
9. Casey Kahne	3,023
10. Brad Keselowski	3,009
11. Dale Earnhardt Jr.	3,006
12. Jimmie Johnson	3,004
13. AJ Allmendinger	2,110
14. Greg Biffle	2,101
15. Kurt Busch	2,075
16. Aric Almirola	2,074
17. Kyle Larson	901
18. Clint Bowyer	843
19. Jamie McMurray	825
20. Paul Menard	816

DRIVER TO WATCH

With seven career victories at Charlotte Motor Speedway, **Jimmie Johnson** is the driver all the other drivers will be chasing.

When he hasn't won at Charlotte, Johnson has finished in the top five 13 times and in the top 10 on 17 occasions. He's also earned the pole four times.

He has an average finish of 11.2 in 26 races at Charlotte. He also has a series-best average running position of 7.5 and a series-best driver rating of 112.7.



NATIONWIDE SERIES

This week: 300 Miles of Courage at Concord, N.C.

Track: Charlotte Motor Speedway (oval, 1.5 miles).

Race distance: 300 miles, 200 laps.

TV: AFN-Sports, delayed, 9 a.m. Saturday, Central European Time.

Last year: Kyle Busch completed a season sweep at the track, racing to the 11th of his 12 2013 series victories.

Last week: Busch won at Kansas Speedway for his sixth victory of the year.

Fast facts: Busch has a record 69 series victories. He's racing along with fellow Sprint Cup drivers Brad Keselowski and Kyle Larson, the winner at the track in May.

Next race: O'Reilly Auto Parts Challenge, Nov. 1, Texas Motor Speedway, Fort Worth, Texas.

Online: nascar.com

CAMPING WORLD TRUCK SERIES

Next race: Fred's 250, Oct. 18, Talladega Superspeedway, Talladega, Ala.

Last race: Erik Jones won at Las Vegas for his second victory of the year, holding off Kyle Busch Motorsports teammate Darrell Wallace Jr.

Online: nascar.com

FORMULA ONE

This week: Russian Grand Prix at Sochi, Russia.

Track: Sochi Autodrom (road course, 3.637 miles).

Race distance: 192.75 miles, 53 laps.

Last year: Inaugural race.

Last week: Mercedes' Lewis Hamilton won the rain-shortened Japanese Grand Prix for his third straight victory

and eighth of the season. Marussia's Jules Bianchi is in critical but stable condition following surgery for a head injury sustained when he crashed into a crane sent to recover a wrecked vehicle. The race was red-flagged after the accident and the final nine laps were wiped out because of rain and poor visibility.

Fast facts: The race is F1's first in Russia. The Hermann Tilke-designed circuit runs through the Olympic Park.

Next race: U.S. Grand Prix, Nov. 2, Circuit of The Americas, Austin, Texas.

Online: formula1.com

NHRA MELLO YELLO DRAG RACING

Next event: NHRA Toyota Nationals, Oct. 30-Nov. 2, The Strip at Las Vegas Motor Speedway, Las Vegas.

Last week: Matt Hagan won the NHRA Nationals in Mohnton, Pennsylvania, to take the Funny Car points lead. Hagan raced to his third victory of the season and second in the Countdown to the Championship playoffs. Tony Schumacher won in Top Fuel, Rodney Brundham in Pro Stock, and Eddie Krawiec in Pro Stock Motorcycle.

Online: nhra.com

OTHER RACES

WORLD OF OUTLAWS: Sprint Car: Super DIRT Week, Saturday, Rolling Wheels Raceway, Elbridge, N.Y. Super DirtCar: Super DIRT Week, Sunday, Rolling Wheels Raceway, Elbridge, N.Y.

U.S. AUTO RACING CLUB: Silver Crown: Super DIRT Week, Saturday, New York State Fairgrounds, Syracuse, N.Y.

Online: worldofoutlaws.com

— The Associated Press

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Sooners looking to bounce back after loss

No. 11 Oklahoma needs win over Texas to stay alive in playoff hunt

By STEPHEN HAWKINS
The Associated Press

DALLAS — Oklahoma needs another one of those bounce-back games that have become so common under coach Bob Stoops.

Without one Saturday in their storied rivalry against Texas, the 11th-ranked Sooners will have a difficult, and likely impossible, time getting back into the mix for a spot in the new four-team College Football Playoff.

"Just worried about this week. Down the road's a long way off — for everybody," Stoops said. "Through the years, when there's only been two teams to qualify to get into the championship game, how many one-loss teams have won it? Quite a few. LSU won it with two losses. So I don't know why it's much different ... We'll see."

Oklahoma (4-1, 1-1 Big 12) was among the losing teams last week in that unprecedented string of upsets — among five of the top eight ranked teams that lost, and 11 of the top 20. The 37-33 loss at TCU dropped the Sooners seven spots, and took them out of a prime position as the Big 12's highest-ranked team.

Eight-time Big 12 champion Oklahoma hasn't lost consecutive games in the regular season since the start of the 2000 season, going 31-0 in the regular season following a loss.

Since 2009, the Sooners have also won 10 consecutive games in rematches against teams that beat them the previous season — like Texas (2-3, 1-2) did 36-20 last year, when Oklahoma was a two-touchdown



AP photo

When Texas head coach Charlie Strong, left, leads the Longhorns through the Cotton Bowl tunnel to play No. 11 Oklahoma, he'll get his first taste of one of the fiercest rivalries in college football. Saturday will also be Strong's first matchup as a head coach against the Sooners' Bob Stoops, right, whose 15-year rivalry with Mack Brown tended to overshadow the legions of future NFL players who did the blocking, tackling and scoring touchdowns on the field.

favorite just as it is now. Stoops was 9-6 against former Texas coach Mack Brown with a string of lopsided victories.

Like Stoops, new Texas coach Charlie Strong won a national championship as a defensive coordinator with Florida before getting a head coaching job. Strong, whose

title with the Gators came in the 2009 BCS national championship game over the Stoops-coached Sooners, already knows the significance of the Red River Rivalry game at the State Fair of Texas.

"The Texas-Oklahoma rivalry is a special rivalry. We know how big it is," Strong

said. "Don't have to say much to the players this week. Don't have to worry about them being down. They know what's at stake here. Last year going into this game everyone was kind of throwing dirt on them, and they were able to bounce back and go win it."



JOHN BAZEMORE/AP

Georgia running back Todd Gurley has been suspended indefinitely while the school investigates an alleged violation of NCAA rules.

No. 13 Georgia suspends RB Gurley

The Associated Press

ATHENS, Ga. — Georgia star tailback Todd Gurley was suspended indefinitely on Thursday while the school investigates an alleged violation of NCAA rules.

The stunning announcement came two days before the No. 13 Bulldogs (4-1, 2-1 Southeastern Conference) face No. 23 Missouri (4-1, 1-0) in a crucial Eastern Division game, a huge blow to both the team and Gurley's Heisman Trophy hopes.

Georgia officials did not reveal the alleged violation. SI.com, citing an anonymous source, reported that the school was investigating whether Gurley was paid \$400 to sign 80 pieces of memorabilia on the Georgia campus this past spring.

The NCAA requires schools to declare players ineligible if they discover possible rules violations. They can apply for the player's reinstatement after the investigation is completed, which happened in the past with stars such as Cam Newton and Johnny Manziel.

"I'm obviously very disappointed," coach Mark Richt said in a statement. "The important thing for our team is to turn all our attention toward preparation for Missouri."

Gurley leads the Bulldogs with 773 yards rushing and eight touchdowns,

'I'm obviously very disappointed. The important thing for our team is to turn all our attention toward preparation for Missouri.'

Mark Richt

Georgia head coach, on RB Todd Gurley, who was suspended indefinitely on Thursday while the school investigates an alleged violation of NCAA rules



averaging 8.2 yards per carry. In addition, he has 11 receptions and a 100-yard kickoff return for a TD.

The junior established himself as a leading Heisman contender with several signature games and moments, including a school-record 293 all-purpose yards in a season-opening victory over Clemson. There was also a hurdler-like leap over a Tennessee defender to pick up an extra 10 yards — a play that was shown repeatedly on national highlight shows. Last week, the left-hander surprised Vanderbilt by completing a 50-yard pass — Georgia's longest throw of the year.

The Bulldogs began the season with plenty of depth at running back, but that has taken a blow in

recent weeks with injuries to top backup Keith Marshall and freshman sensation Sony Michel.

Now, Georgia is dealing with the toughest blow of all.

Gurley is simply irreplaceable, a dynamic mix of speed and power that has helped the Bulldogs keep winning even with a mediocre passing game. He has accounted for more than half of the team's rushing yards, and his nine touchdowns account for nearly a third of Georgia's 30 trips to the end zone.

Freshman Nick Chubb, who ranks second on the team with 234 yards rushing, will likely step in to start against Missouri. Sophomore Brendan Douglas is the only back with significant experience.

College GameDay



BRANDON WADE/AP

Player to watch

Treyvone Boykin QB | TCU

The dual-threat QB has been a perfect fit in what so far is the nation's most-improved offense — the Frogs' 516 total yards per game is a 171-yard increase from last season. Boykin is one of only six FBS quarterbacks to be his team's top passer (294 yards per game with 10 TDs and two interceptions) and rusher (65 yards per game, three TDs). He is second in the Big 12 and eighth nationally with 359 total yards a game. TCU faces a tough test against the other undefeated Big 12 team.

No. 9 TCU at No. 5 Baylor
9:30 p.m. Saturday CET
AFN-Atlantic



JIM LYTLE/AP

Mississippi State quarterback Dak Prescott, left, pitches the ball to running back Josh Robinson last week against Texas A&M. The Bulldogs jumped to No. 3 in the nation with their eighth straight victory last week. On Saturday, they'll face No. 2 Auburn in an SEC West showdown.

THE POWER CONFERENCES

ACC			
Atlantic Division			
	Conf.	W	L
Florida St.	3	0	5
Louisville	3	1	5
Clemson	2	1	3
Boston College	0	1	3
Syracuse	0	1	3
NC State	0	2	4
Wake Forest	0	2	4
Coastal Division			
	Conf.	W	L
Georgia Tech.	2	0	5
Virginia	2	0	4
Virginia Tech.	1	1	4
Pittsburgh	1	1	3
Miami	1	2	3
Duke	0	1	4
North Carolina	0	2	4

Game of the week: Duke at No. 22 Georgia Tech. The Yellow Jackets (5-0, 2-0 ACC) are tied with Virginia atop the Coastal Division and next host reigning division champion Duke (4-1, 0-1). The Blue Devils have already lost in the division to Miami. Of note: The Yellow Jackets have won 10 straight in the series, including all six since David Cutcliffe began his program-building project in Durham.

Inside the numbers: Wake Forest is the only league team with a punt return for a touchdown — and that was an end-zone recovery of a blocked punt in Week 1. Last year, league teams returned 13 punts for touchdowns.

Player to watch: Miami freshman quarterback Brad Kaaya. Kaaya has thrown for 10 touchdowns in the past four weeks heading into a home game with Cincinnati. He has thrown for 1,520 yards and 13 touchdowns in the first six games.

Big Ten			
East			
	Conf.	W	L
Michigan St.	1	0	4
Ohio St.	1	0	4
Penn St.	1	1	4
Rutgers	1	1	5
Maryland	1	1	4
Indiana	0	1	2
Michigan	0	2	3
West			
	Conf.	W	L
Northwestern	2	0	3
Iowa	2	0	2
Minnesota	1	0	4
Nebraska	1	1	5
Purdue	1	1	3
Wisconsin	0	1	3
Illinois	0	1	3

Game of the week: North-western at Minnesota. OK, show of hands: Who had this as a matchup with first place on the line? Northwestern (3-2, 2-0) lost its first two games of the season, but then won three in a row — including the Wildcats' first two Big Ten games against Penn State and Wisconsin. Minnesota (4-1, 1-0), now in its 47th season since last winning even a scrap of a title, topped struggling Michigan at the Big House.

Inside the numbers: Look for Wisconsin's Melvin Gordon, who has 871 yards rushing on the year, to top the 1,000-yard mark — possibly by halftime against Illinois.

Players to watch: Indiana's Tevin Coleman and Nate Sudfeld. Coleman has carried 105 times for 841 yards and eight TDs. Sudfeld has completed 97 of 158 passes for 1,066 yards and five scores. They'll both have to have huge games when the Hoosiers (3-2, 0-1) travel to Iowa (4-1, 1-0).

Big 12			
	Conf.	W	L
Baylor	2	0	5
Oklahoma St.	2	0	4
Kansas St.	2	0	4
TCU	1	0	4
Oklahoma	1	1	4
Texas	1	1	3
West Virginia	1	1	3
Kansas	0	2	3
Texas Tech.	0	2	3
Iowa St.	0	3	4

Game of the week: No. 9 TCU at No. 5 Baylor. Baylor and TCU, the Big 12's last remaining undefeateds, first played in 1899, but never before have both teams been ranked for the game in a series that is dead even at 51-51-7. Baylor is the defending Big 12 champion and has been in the Top 10 all season. TCU jumped 16 spots in this week's poll after beating then-No. 4 Oklahoma.

Inside the numbers: Oklahoma is 31-0 in regular-season games following a loss since 2000.... The 20 sacks by the Texas defense are the most by the Longhorns through five games since 1985.

Player to watch: West Virginia quarterback Clint Trickett. The Big 12's top passer leads the league in total offense — though he has minus-20 yards rushing. Trickett is third among FBS quarterbacks with 380.4 yards passing per game with 10 touchdowns and four interceptions.

Pac-12			
North			
	Conf.	W	L
California	2	1	4
Oregon	1	1	4
Oregon St.	1	1	4
Stanford	1	1	3
Washington	1	2	4
Washington St.	0	1	4
South			
	Conf.	W	L
Arizona	2	0	5
Arizona St.	2	1	4
Southern Cal.	2	1	3
Utah	1	1	4
UCLA	1	1	4
Colorado	0	3	4

Game of the week: No. 12 Oregon at No. 18 UCLA. The Ducks (4-1, 1-1 Pac-12) were upset by Arizona 31-24 last week a stunning defeat that helped jump the AP Top 25. Bruins QB Brett Hundley and Ducks QB Marcus Mariota have something in common that may well decide the game at the Rose Bowl on Saturday. They've both been sacked with extraordinary frequency in recent weeks.

Inside the numbers: Last week, the USC defense yielded 243 of Arizona State's 510 yards passing in the game on the final three possessions. The Sun Devils won 38-34.

Player to watch: Oregon QB Mariota. He threw for 276 yards and two touchdowns, and also caught a TD pass last week. After the loss, offensive coordinator Scott Frost suggested that Mariota wasn't "100 percent." Oregon doesn't discuss injuries, so there's no way to know what was bothering the Heisman hopeful.

SERVICE ACADEMIES

Air Force
Last week: Beat Utah State
Next game: vs. New Mexico, Oct. 18

Army
vs. Rice
Last week: Beat Ball State, 33-24
Next game: at Kent State, Oct. 18

Navy
at Air Force
Last week: Lost 30-21 at Air Force
Next games: VMI, Oct. 11

AP TOP 25 SCHEDULE	
Friday's game	
No. 25 Stanford	vs. Washington State
Saturday	
No. 1 Florida State	(5-0) at Syracuse
No. 2 Auburn	(5-0) at No. 3 Mississippi State
No. 3 Mississippi	(5-0) at No. 14 Texas A&M
No. 5 Baylor	(5-0) vs. No. 9 TCU
No. 6 Notre Dame	(5-0) vs. North Carolina
No. 7 Alabama	(4-1) at Arkansas
No. 8 Michigan State	(4-1) at Purdue
No. 10 Arizona	(5-0) vs. Southern Cal
No. 11 Oklahoma	(4-1) vs. Texas at Dallas
No. 12 Oregon	(4-1) at No. 18 UCLA
No. 13 Georgia	(4-1) at No. 23 Missouri
No. 16 Oklahoma State	(4-1) at Kansas
No. 19 East Carolina	(4-1) at South Florida
No. 22 Georgia Tech	(5-0) vs. Duke
No. 18 BYU	vs. Utah State

SEC			
East			
	Conf.	W	L
Missouri	1	1	0
Georgia	2	1	4
Kentucky	2	1	3
South Carolina	2	1	4
Tennessee	0	2	3
Vanderbilt	0	4	5
West			
	Conf.	W	L
Auburn	2	0	5
Mississippi St.	2	0	5
Texas A&M	2	1	5
Alabama	2	1	3
LSU	0	2	4
Arkansas	0	2	4

Game of the week: No. 2 Auburn at No. 3 Mississippi State. All eyes will be on Mississippi State quarterback Dak Prescott, who jumped into serious Heisman Trophy contention with a breakout game in a 48-31 victory over Texas A&M last week. Auburn counters with the second-ranked scoring defense in the SEC and an effective running game led by Cameron Artis-Payne, who is averaging 118.8 rushing yards per game.

Inside the numbers: No. 3 Ole Miss is 5-0 for the first time since its 1962 unbeaten season. The Rebels have allowed only four touchdowns all season — the fewest in the nation.

Player to watch: Florida quarterback Jeff Driskel. He struggled in a 42-21 loss to Alabama and then threw three interceptions last week at Tennessee. But with backup Treon Harris suspended, the Gators chances of contending in the East likely depend on how Driskel responds.

NFL

Scoreboard

American Conference

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Buffalo	3	2	0	.600	96	89
New England	3	2	0	.600	123	107
Miami	2	2	0	.500	96	97
N.Y. Jets	1	4	0	.200	79	127
South						
Indianapolis	4	2	0	.667	189	136
Houston	3	3	0	.500	132	120
Tennessee	1	4	0	.200	88	139
Jacksonville	0	5	0	.000	67	169
North						
Cincinnati	3	1	0	.750	97	76
Baltimore	3	2	0	.600	116	80
Pittsburgh	3	2	0	.600	114	108
Cleveland	2	2	0	.500	103	105
West						
San Diego	4	1	0	.800	133	63
Denver	1	1	0	.500	116	87
Kansas City	2	3	0	.400	119	101
Oakland	0	5	0	.000	51	103

National Conference

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Philadelphia	4	1	0	.800	156	132
Dallas	4	0	0	.800	135	103
N.Y. Giants	3	2	0	.600	133	111
Washington	1	4	0	.200	112	136
South						
Carolina	3	2	0	.600	104	120
Atlanta	2	3	0	.400	151	143
New Orleans	2	3	0	.400	132	141
Tampa Bay	1	4	0	.200	103	156
North						
Detroit	3	3	0	.500	99	79
Green Bay	3	2	0	.600	134	106
Minnesota	2	3	0	.400	101	126
Chicago	2	3	0	.400	116	131
West						
Arizona	3	0	0	.750	86	86
Seattle	3	1	0	.750	110	83
San Francisco	3	2	0	.600	110	106
St. Louis	1	3	0	.250	84	119

Thursday's game

Indianapolis 33, Houston 28

Sunday's games

Jacksonville at Tennessee

Baltimore at Tampa Bay

Denver at N.Y. Jets

New England at Buffalo

Carolina at Cincinnati

Pittsburgh at Cleveland

Green Bay at Miami

San Diego at Oakland

Dallas at Seattle

Washington at Arizona

Chicago at Atlanta

N.Y. Giants at Philadelphia

Open: Kansas City, New Orleans

Monday's game

San Francisco at St. Louis

Thursday, Oct. 16

N.Y. Jets at New England

Sunday, Oct. 19

Seattle at St. Louis

Miami at Chicago

Carolina at Green Bay

Atlanta at Baltimore

Tennessee at Washington

Cleveland at Jacksonville

Cincinnati at Indianapolis

New Orleans at Buffalo

New England at Detroit

Kansas City at San Diego

Arizona at Oakland

N.Y. Giants at Dallas

San Francisco at Denver

Open: Philadelphia, Tampa Bay

Monday, Oct. 20

Houston at Pittsburgh

Thursday

Colts 33, Houston 28

Indianapolis

24 3 6 0 — 33

Houston

0 14 7 0 — 28

First Quarter

Ind—FG Vinatieri 37, 1-13.

10:18—Bradshaw 5 pass from Luck (Vinatieri kick), 7:00.

Ind—Fleener 4 pass from Luck (Vinatieri kick), 3:00.

Second Quarter

Hou—A.Johnson 4 pass from Fitzpatrick (Bullock kick), 9:43.

Hou—Foster 12 run (Bullock kick), 8:22.

Ind—FG Vinatieri 34, 1:05.

Third Quarter

Hou—Foster 2 run (Bullock kick), 5:59.

Ind—Hilton 3 pass from Luck (run field), 2:25.

Fourth Quarter

Hou—Watt 45 fumble return (Bullock kick), 19:36.

A—71.787.

First downs

Ind 27 Hou 18

1st downs by net yards

Rushes—yards

35-93 24-136

Passing

35-93 24-136

Punt Returns

2-31 0-0

Kickoff Returns

3-79 0-0

Interceptions Ret.

0-0 15-23.0

Comp.-Att.-Int.

25-44-1 25-44-1

Ricks 2-18, Fleener 2-11, Bolden 2-9, Houston 4-35, Allen 3-49, Bradshaw 2-25, Foster 7-99, D.Johnson 3-62, Foster 2-22, Redskins 1-1, Fiedorowicz 1-7.

MISSED FIELD GOALS—Houston, Bullock 37 (WR).



DUANE BURLESON/AP

Buffalo running back C.J. Spiller, left, goes up against Detroit cornerback Darius Slay during the first quarter of Sunday's game. Buffalo rallied to win 17-14 and is sitting at 3-2.

Preview

Bills try to end Pats' streak of dominance

The Associated Press

Even though the Pegulas just bought the Buffalo Bills, everyone knows who really owns them: The New England Patriots.

New England has won 20 of the past 21 matchups, and when it journeys to Buffalo on Sunday, it will face a festive atmosphere. Buffalo folk have been busy celebrating the \$1.4 billion sale of the NFL franchise to Terry and Kim Pegula, who also own the NHL's Sabres. The Pegulas are keeping the team in the area.

"It would be big for them being their first game as new owners, and it would be better for us," Bills running back Fred Jackson said. "If we don't handle business, we'll all feel rather sour."

Buffalo is off to a better-than-expected start, and riding momentum following a comeback behind 17-14 win at Detroit.

There are questions about whether New England's decade-plus run of divisional dominance is showing signs of decay. The Patriots were blown out 41-14 at Kansas City two weeks ago before rebounding with a 43-17 win over Cincinnati. Which are the real Patriots?

"We're really past that now," coach Bill Belichick said. "I don't think that has anything to do with this week."

Did you know

New England has won 20 of the last 21 games against Buffalo and leads the overall series 65-41-1.

SOURCE: The Associated Press

What the Dallas Cowboys have done, to win four successive games, especially with a banged-up defense minus any star players, has been impressive. Beating the defending Super Bowl champs in Seattle would be stupendous — and stamp Dallas as a surprise title contender.

The Cowboys have defied expectations thanks to the running of DeMarco Murray, just the third running back in league history — and first since O.J. Simpson in 1975 — to start the season with five straight 100-yard games.

A sixth against the Seahawks' stingy and physical defense that leads the NFL in stopping the run would be another huge achievement.

Seattle is coming off a short week following a 27-17 win on Monday night in Washington thanks to the wizardry of Russell Wilson. It's now accepted that Wilson is going to pull off a trick or two, but his big night could have been part of a blowout win if not for Seattle's penalty issues.

The New York Giants are at Philadelphia in the primetime matchup late Sunday.

After dropping their first two games, the Giants stopped being so generous turning over the ball, and began grasping the offense new coordinator Ben McAdoo brought from Green Bay. This is the first of six successive games against teams with winning records for New York.

This is also Eli Manning: Giants quarterback Manning is 30-7 in October.

The Eagles have been dynamic on special teams, with four touchdowns, and also have three defensive touchdowns.

Elsewhere on Sunday, it's Denver at the New York Jets, San Diego at Oakland, Green Bay at Miami, Carolina at Cincinnati, Baltimore at Tampa Bay, Pittsburgh at Cleveland, Washington at Arizona, Chicago at Atlanta, Detroit at Minnesota, and Jacksonville at Tennessee.

On Monday, San Francisco is at St. Louis.

Hold: Last shot ends with fumble

FROM BACK PAGE

5 minutes remaining when Johnson — called for pass interference — caught a 13-yard pass and fumbled.

Watt knocked down Luck's pass on third down on Indy's next drive to give Houston one last chance. But Bjorn Werner sacked Fitzpatrick and stripped the ball, and D'Qwell Jackson recovered.

Houston coach Bill O'Brien was at a loss about why his team can't get things going early.

"I don't know," he said. "We haven't started well yet so got to try to figure it out."

Five things to know about Indy's win over Houston:

1 Luck rolling: Luck is off to the best start of his career and leads the NFL with 1,987 yards passing and 17 touchdowns. He threw touchdown passes of 65, 4 and 33 yards on Thursday night.

2 Watt a player: Watt, who was the Defensive Player of the Year in 2012, has been almost unstoppable this season. Watt had two sacks and swatted down two passes on Thursday night and his 45-yard fumble return for a touchdown was his third score this season.

"He's a great, great player," Pagano said. "He's one of the most dominant players in the game right now. He'll go down as one of the best defensive players ... to play the game."

3 Hilton's big day: Hilton's career game came in large part because of a huge first quarter, when he had 140 yards receiving.

"He's a game wrecker, a game breaker," Pagano said. "We all know that. He came up big."

Hilton had four receptions of more than 30 yards on Thursday night and said making long plays is always a goal for him.

"Every game we try to hit a chunk," Hilton said. "We always talk about chunk plays, so whenever we get a chance, we want to make sure we hit them."

4 Johnson's milestone: Johnson finished with 99 yards receiving to give him 13,080, making him the 15th player in NFL history to reach 13,000. But he couldn't celebrate the milestone because of his late fumble.

"I still think we should have won the game," he said. "I think my turnover was probably the biggest mistake of the game, took the momentum that we were going down. I really thought we were going to go down and get points."

5 Another 100 for Foster: Arian Foster had 109 yards rushing with two scores for Houston, his fourth 100-yard game this season and the 29th of his career. It was the 13th multi-touchdown game of his career, and he has 50 career rushing touchdowns.

NHL

Roundup

Crosby, Pens roll in season opener

The Associated Press

PITTSBURGH — The Pittsburgh Penguins spent the offseason revamping the front office, replacing the coaching staff and tinkering with a roster that went five straight springs falling to lower-seeded opponents in the playoffs.

Yet some things remained constant. Well, one thing mostly: Sidney Crosby.

The two-time MVP scored twice and added an assist as the Penguins beat the Anaheim Ducks 6-4 on Thursday night to make Mike Johnston a winner in his NHL head coaching debut.

"We have a lot of new faces," Crosby said. "You're always excited to play the first one but especially with so many new faces I think we used that energy to our advantage."

Pascal Dupuis added a goal and three assists in his return from knee surgery. Patrick Hornqvist, Blake Comeau and Brandon Sutter also scored for Pittsburgh while Olli Maatta chipped in three assists in his first game of any kind after sitting out the pre-season to recuperate from shoulder surgery. Marc-Andre Fleury made 25 saves.

Corey Perry had the sixth hat trick of his career for the Ducks, who collapsed after erasing an early three-goal deficit. Ryan Kesler added a goal in his debut with Anaheim. John Gibson struggled while making his first start in his hometown, stopping 33 of 39 shots.

"We want to play better," Anaheim defenseman Ben Lovejoy said. "There were far too many things that went wrong. We need to figure this out because that was embarrassing."

The 21-year-old Gibson earned the starting job following a stellar playoff in which he took over for Jonas Hiller. Coach Bruce Boudreau wanted to give Gibson the nod in the opener so the Pittsburgh native could play in front of friends and family. He also had to play in front of the Penguins, who pounced early and never trailed. "We've got to do a better job helping out our goaltender," Anaheim center Ryan Getzlaf said. "We kind of hung him out tonight and tried to play a run-and-gun game against a team that scores goals that well."

That part won't change. Derik King, hired to replace Dan Byles in June and tasked with making sure Crosby and Evgeni Malkin's primes don't go to waste.

Early returns are promising.

Hornqvist, acquired from Nashville in a draft-day trade that sent talented but turbulent forward James Neal to the Predators, needed all of 5:16 to make an im-

pression. Playing alongside Crosby helped. Crosby won a face-off at the right dot and slipped a pass to Hornqvist at the top of the circle. The wrist shot deflected off Gibson's arm and into the net and the Penguins seemed to exhale. "We hadn't had that line together in preseason, only once," Johnston said. "You're always hoping that those combinations would work as you expect. I thought Patrick Hornqvist added a lot to that line tonight."

Crosby doubled the lead just over two minutes later, streaking down the left side and firing a shot that Gibson couldn't get a handle on.

Rangers 3, Blues 2: Rick Nash had two goals and an assist, including the tiebreaking score late in the third period, and visiting New York beat St. Louis.

Blackhawks 3, Stars 2 (SO): Patrick Sharp scored the tying goal in the third period, and Patrick Kane had the only goal in the shootout to lift visiting Chicago over Dallas.

Red Wings 2, Bruins 1: Gustav Nyquist's power-play goal in the second period lifted host Detroit over Boston.

Wild 5, Avalanche 0: Zach Parise scored one of his team's four goals in the second period and assisted on two others, helping host Minnesota overwhelm Semyon Varlamov and Colorado.

Devils 6, Flyers 4: Dainius Zubrus scored the go-ahead goal in the third period and Michael Cammalleri had two goals to lead visiting New Jersey over Philadelphia.

Predators 3, Senators 2: Craig Smith, Shea Weber and Eric Nystrom all scored in the third period, and host Nashville beat Ottawa.

Blue Jackets 3, Sabres 1: Cam Atkinson scored the tiebreaking goal on a third-period power play, and visiting Columbus beat Buffalo.

Canadiens 2, Capitals 1 (SO): Tomas Plekanec scored his third goal the young season, and visiting Montreal recovered from a slow start for a 2-1 shootout win over Washington and new coach Barry Trotz.

Lightning 3, Panthers 2 (OT): Victor Hedman scored a power-play goal 1:11 into overtime and host Tampa Bay beat Florida.

Jets 6, Coyotes 2: Blake Wheeler scored twice in 15 seconds. Bryan Little also had two goals and Winnipeg spoiled the season opener at home for newly named Arizona.

Flames 5, Oilers 2: Mason Raymond scored three goals for his third career hat trick and visiting Calgary ruined the season opener for its provincial rival by beating Edmonton.

Scoreboard

Eastern Conference

Atlantic Division						
GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Montreal	1	1	0	0	2	4
Detroit	1	1	0	0	2	4
Tampa Bay	1	1	0	0	2	4
Boston	1	1	0	0	2	4
Florida	1	1	0	0	2	4
Ottawa	1	1	0	0	2	4
Toronto	1	1	0	0	2	4
Buffalo	1	1	0	0	2	4

Metropolitan Division						
GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Columbus	1	1	0	0	2	4
New Jersey	1	1	0	0	2	4
Pittsburgh	1	1	0	0	2	4
N.Y. Rangers	1	1	0	0	2	4
Washington	1	1	0	0	2	4
Carolina	1	1	0	0	2	4
N.Y. Islanders	1	1	0	0	2	4
Philadelphia	1	1	0	0	2	4

Western Conference						
Central Division						
GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Minnesota	1	1	0	0	2	4
Winnipeg	1	1	0	0	2	4
Nashville	1	1	0	0	2	4
Chicago	1	1	0	0	2	4
Dallas	1	1	0	0	2	4
St. Louis	1	1	0	0	2	4
Colorado	1	1	0	0	2	4

Pacific Division						
GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
San Jose	1	1	0	0	2	4
Vancouver	1	1	0	0	2	4
Calgary	1	1	0	0	2	4
Anaheim	1	1	0	0	2	4
Edmonton	1	1	0	0	2	4
Arizona	1	1	0	0	2	4
Los Angeles	1	1	0	0	2	4

Thursday's games
 Montreal 2, Washington 1, SO
 Chicago 3, Dallas 2
 Columbus 3, Buffalo 1
 New Jersey 6, Philadelphia 4
 Detroit 2, Boston 1
 Florida 2, Tampa Bay 3, OT
 N.Y. Rangers 3, St. Louis 2
 Minnesota 5, Colorado 2
 Winnipeg 6, Arizona 2

Friday's games
 N.Y. Islanders at Carolina
 Saturday's games
 Washington at Toronto
 Pittsburgh at Detroit
 Ottawa at Tampa Bay
 New Jersey at Carolina
 Carolina at N.Y. Islanders
 Montreal at Philadelphia
 N.Y. Rangers at Columbus
 Calgary at St. Louis
 Colorado at Colorado
 Los Angeles at Anaheim
 Edmonton at Vancouver
 Winnipeg at San Jose

Thursday

Blue Jackets 3, Sabres 1
 Columbus 0 1 0-3
 Buffalo 0 1 0-1
 First Period—1, Columbus, G. Gabor (Boll, Chaput), 13:21; 2, Buffalo, S. Girgen
 1 (M.Folligno), 14:42.
 Second Period—1, Columbus, Atkinson (Johansen, N.Folligno), 12:45 (pp.); 4, Columbus, Anisimov (Hartnell, Wenn) 17:34.
 Shots on goal—Columbus 12-12-16; 40, Buffalo 7-7-8-20.
 Power-play opportunities—Columbus 10 (4:05-21 saves), Buffalo, Enroth 0-0 (40-37).
 A—18,215 (19,070). T—2:22.

Canadiens 2, Capitals 1 (SO)
 Montreal 0 0 1 0-2
 Washington 0 0 1 0-1
 First Period—1, Washington, Bura
 1 (Galkenchuk), 10:31.
 Second Period—1, Montreal, Plekanec 3 (Galkenchuk, Gabor) 17:34.
 Shootout—Montreal 3 (Galkenchuk, Gabor, Plekanec) 3, Washington 2 (Backstrom, G. Kuznetsov, N.G. Fehr, G. Ovechkin) 3.
 Shots on goal—Montreal 2-12-9-21-41; 40, Washington 12-12-16-40.
 Power-play opportunities—Montreal 0 (5:45-23 saves), Washington, Holby 0-0 (24-23).
 Goals—Montreal, Tokarski 1-0-0 (30 shots-23 saves), Washington, Holby 0-0 (24-23).
 A—18,506 (18,506). T—3:00.

Lightning 3, Panthers 2 (OT)
 Florida 0 1 1 0-2
 Tampa Bay 0 1 1 0-1
 First Period—1, Tampa Bay, Boudreau (Olsen, MacKenzie), 5:03; 2, Tampa Bay, Boudreau (Olsen, MacKenzie), 11:25.
 Second Period—1, Tampa Bay, Callahan (Filipula, Hedman), 7:17 (pp.); 4, Florida, Huerbuerd (Campbell, Ekblad), 9:16.
 Overtime—1, Tampa Bay, Hedman (Bishop), 1:11 (pp).
 Shots on goal—Tampa Bay 3-9-9-21-41; Tampa Bay 8-9-13-32-32.
 Power-play opportunities—Florida 0 (5:45-23 saves), Tampa Bay, Bishop 1-0 (21-19).
 A—19,204 (19,204). T—2:40.

Devils 6, Flyers 4
 Philadelphia 0 0 0-0
 Minnesota 1 4 0-5
 First Period—1, Minnesota, Pomutville (Granlund, Suter), 14:54.
 Second Period—1, Minnesota, Spurgeon (Parise, Pomutville), 4:37; 3, Minnesota, Parise (Granlund), 7:58; 4, Minnesota, Niederreiter (L. St. Louis, Minnesota, Suter (Parise, Cooley), 16:01.
 Shots on goal—Colorado 5-8-3-16-20; Minnesota 17-21-10-48.
 Goals—Colorado, Varlamov 0-1-0 (38 shots-33 saves), Beres (Ott, third, 10:10).
 Goals—Colorado, Kuemper 1-0-0 (16-16).
 A—20,027 (20,066). T—2:27.

Wild 5, Avalanche 0
 Colorado 0 0 0-0
 Minnesota 1 4 0-5
 First Period—1, Minnesota, Pomutville (Granlund, Suter), 14:54.
 Second Period—1, Minnesota, Spurgeon (Parise, Pomutville), 4:37; 3, Minnesota, Parise (Granlund), 7:58; 4, Minnesota, Niederreiter (L. St. Louis, Minnesota, Suter (Parise, Cooley), 16:01.
 Shots on goal—Colorado 5-8-3-16-20; Minnesota 17-21-10-48.
 Goals—Colorado, Varlamov 0-1-0 (38 shots-33 saves), Beres (Ott, third, 10:10).
 Goals—Colorado, Kuemper 1-0-0 (16-16).
 A—20,027 (20,066). T—2:27.

Rangers 3, Blues 2
 N.Y. Rangers 1 0 2-3
 St. Louis 1 0 1-2
 First Period—1, N.Y. Rangers, Nash 1 (Kreider, 2:30).
 Second Period—2, St. Louis, Schwartz (Bourque, P. St. Louis), 6:30; 3, N.Y. Rangers, Kreider (Nash, St. Louis), 6:30; 4, St. Louis, Stastny (Tarasenko, Schwartz), 10:42; 5, N.Y. Rangers, Nash (St. Louis), 18:10.
 Shots on goal—N.Y. Rangers 16-4-5-25; St. Louis 8-8-9-25.
 Power-play opportunities—N.Y. Rangers 0 of 3; St. Louis 0 of 5.
 Goals—N.Y. Rangers, Lundqvist 1-0-0 (25 shots-23 saves), St. Louis, Elliott 0-0 (25-22).
 A—19,183 (19,150). T—2:28.

Predators 3, Senators 2
 Ottawa 1 1 1-2
 Nashville 0 2 0-3
 First Period—1, Ottawa, Turris 1 (Parker, 11:25).
 Second Period—1, Nashville, Byrum (Schiefel, Perreault), 14:11.
 Third Period—1, Nashville, Byrum (Schiefel, Perreault), 14:11.
 Shots on goal—Nashville 16-8-3-27; Phoenix 8-9-11-28.
 Power-play opportunities—Winnipeg 0 of 5; Phoenix 0 of 3.
 Goals—Winnipeg, Pavelec 1-0-0 (28 shots-23 saves), Phoenix, Smith 0-0 (27-21).
 A—17,125 (17,125). T—2:30.

Flames 5, Oilers 2
 Calgary 2 0 3-5
 Edmonton 1 1 0-2
 First Period—1, Calgary, Raymond 1 (Gordano, Colborne), 3:16; 2, Calgary, Raymond 3 (Colborne, Hudler), 14:42; 7, Calgary, Brodie (Glencross, Backlund), 12:59 (pp).
 Second Period—4, Edmonton, Hall 1 (Nugent-Hopman, Schultz), 11:25 (pp).
 Third Period—5, Calgary, Raymond 3 (Colborne, Hudler), 14:42; 7, Calgary, Brodie (Glencross, Backlund), 12:59 (pp).
 Shots on goal—Calgary 7-14-15-26; Edmonton 11-15-40.
 Power-play opportunities—Calgary 1 (4:05-21 saves), Edmonton, Scrivens 0-0 (40-37).
 Goals—Calgary, Ramo 1-0-0 (40 shots-38 saves), Edmonton, Scrivens 0-0 (40-37).
 A—16,839 (16,839). T—2:25.
 Eds score a change second assist on 2nd goal.

Jets 6, Coyotes 2
 Winnipeg 4 1 1-5
 Phoenix 1 1 0-2
 First Period—1, Winnipeg, Little 1 (Ladd, 7:00); 2, Phoenix, Boedker 1 (Doan, Ekman-Larsen), 7:38; 3, Winnipeg, Wheeler (Ernstson, Boppan), 8:33; 4, Winnipeg, Wheeler 2 (Bogosian, Ernstson), 9:55; 5, Winnipeg, Stuart 1 (Schiefel, Perreault), 14:11.
 Second Period—1, Winnipeg, Byrum (Schiefel, Perreault), 14:11.
 Third Period—1, Winnipeg, Little 2 (Parker, 11:25); 3, Phoenix, Harzall 1 (Michelek, Erat), 8:25.
 Shots on goal—Winnipeg 16-8-3-27; Phoenix 8-9-11-28.
 Power-play opportunities—Winnipeg 0 of 5; Phoenix 0 of 3.
 Goals—Winnipeg, Pavelec 1-0-0 (28 shots-23 saves), Phoenix, Smith 0-0 (27-21).
 A—17,125 (17,125). T—2:27.

Blackhawks 3, Stars 2 (SO)
 Chicago 1 0 1 0-2
 Dallas 0 0 2-0
 First Period—1, Chicago, Daley 1 (Seabrook, Sharp), 19:16.
 Second Period—2, Dallas, Keith 1 (Hemsky, Spezza), 10:13 (pp.); 3, Dallas, Sakin (Garbutt, Roussio), 15:04.
 Third Period—4, Chicago, Sharp 1 (Keith, Kane), 11:10 (pp).
 Shots on goal—Chicago 3-8-14-26; Dallas 16-9-19-34.
 Power-play opportunities—Chicago 1 of 5; Dallas 1 of 6.
 Goals—Chicago, Crawford 1-0-0 (34 shots-32 saves), Dallas, Lehtonen 0-0 (34 shots-32 saves).
 A—18,768 (18,532). T—2:44.

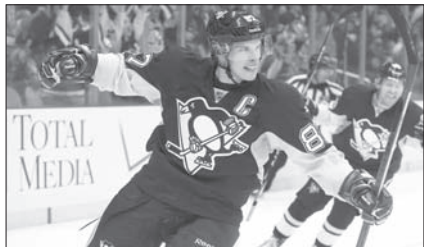
Red Wings 2, Bruins 1
 Boston 0 0 1-1
 Detroit 1 0 0-1
 First Period—1, Boston, Bergeron 1, 12:00.
 Second Period—2, Detroit, Abdelkader 1 (Franzen, DeKeyser), 13:23; 2, Detroit, Nyquist (Heim, Franzen), 14:46 (pp).
 Shots on goal—Boston 14-46-17; Detroit 10-10-14-24.
 Power-play opportunities—Boston 0 of 4; Detroit 1 of 4.
 Goals—Boston, Rask 1-1-0 (24 shots-20 saves), Detroit, Howard 1-0-0 (17-16).
 A—20,027 (20,066). T—2:27.

Devils 6, Flyers 4
 Philadelphia 0 0 0-0
 Minnesota 1 4 0-5
 First Period—1, Minnesota, Pomutville (Granlund, Suter), 14:54.
 Second Period—1, Minnesota, Spurgeon (Parise, Pomutville), 4:37; 3, Minnesota, Parise (Granlund), 7:58; 4, Minnesota, Niederreiter (L. St. Louis, Minnesota, Suter (Parise, Cooley), 16:01.
 Shots on goal—Colorado 5-8-3-16-20; Minnesota 17-21-10-48.
 Goals—Colorado, Varlamov 0-1-0 (38 shots-33 saves), Beres (Ott, third, 10:10).
 Goals—Colorado, Kuemper 1-0-0 (16-16).
 A—20,027 (20,066). T—2:27.

Wild 5, Avalanche 0
 Colorado 0 0 0-0
 Minnesota 1 4 0-5
 First Period—1, Minnesota, Pomutville (Granlund, Suter), 14:54.
 Second Period—1, Minnesota, Spurgeon (Parise, Pomutville), 4:37; 3, Minnesota, Parise (Granlund), 7:58; 4, Minnesota, Niederreiter (L. St. Louis, Minnesota, Suter (Parise, Cooley), 16:01.
 Shots on goal—Colorado 5-8-3-16-20; Minnesota 17-21-10-48.
 Goals—Colorado, Varlamov 0-1-0 (38 shots-33 saves), Beres (Ott, third, 10:10).
 Goals—Colorado, Kuemper 1-0-0 (16-16).
 A—20,027 (20,066). T—2:27.

Rangers 3, Blues 2
 N.Y. Rangers 1 0 2-3
 St. Louis 1 0 1-2
 First Period—1, N.Y. Rangers, Nash 1 (Kreider, 2:30).
 Second Period—2, St. Louis, Schwartz (Bourque, P. St. Louis), 6:30; 3, N.Y. Rangers, Kreider (Nash, St. Louis), 6:30; 4, St. Louis, Stastny (Tarasenko, Schwartz), 10:42; 5, N.Y. Rangers, Nash (St. Louis), 18:10.
 Shots on goal—N.Y. Rangers 16-4-5-25; St. Louis 8-8-9-25.
 Power-play opportunities—N.Y. Rangers 0 of 3; St. Louis 0 of 5.
 Goals—N.Y. Rangers, Lundqvist 1-0-0 (25 shots-23 saves), St. Louis, Elliott 0-0 (25-22).
 A—19,183 (19,150). T—2:28.

Predators 3, Senators 2
 Ottawa 1 1 1-2
 Nashville 0 2 0-3
 First Period—1, Ottawa, Turris 1 (Parker, 11:25).
 Second Period—1, Nashville, Byrum (Schiefel, Perreault), 14:11.
 Third Period—1, Nashville, Byrum (Schiefel, Perreault), 14:11.
 Shots on goal—Nashville 16-8-3-27; Phoenix 8-9-11-28.
 Power-play opportunities—Winnipeg 0 of 5; Phoenix 0 of 3.
 Goals—Winnipeg, Pavelec 1-0-0 (28 shots-23 saves), Phoenix, Smith 0-0 (27-21).
 A—17,125 (17,125). T—2:30.



KEITH SRANK/OC/AP

Pittsburgh's Sidney Crosby celebrates after scoring during the second period of Thursday's game against Anaheim in Pittsburgh.

Devils 6, Flyers 4
 Philadelphia 0 0 0-0
 Minnesota 1 4 0-5
 First Period—1, New Jersey, Ryder 1 (Clowe, Greene), 12:05.
 Second Period—2, New Jersey, Henrique (Ovchinnikov), 2:10; 3, New Jersey, Cammalleri 1 (Jagr, Zidlicky), 5:33; 4, Philadelphia, Giroux 1 (Streit, Voracek), 15:44; 5, Philadelphia, Simmonds 1 (Read, MacDonald), 19:03; 6, Philadelphia, Simmonds 2 (Leavallier, Giroux), 19:59 (pp).
 Third Period—7, New Jersey, Elias 1 (Zidlicky, Havlat), 4:16; 8, New Jersey, Cammalleri 1 (Simmonds, Streit), 4:31; 9, New Jersey, Zubrus 1 (Henrique, Ryder), 7:13; 10, New Jersey, Stremme 2 (Jagr), 19:09 (pp).
 Shots on goal—New Jersey 5-12-9-26; Philadelphia 10-16-13-39.
 Power-play opportunities—New Jersey 0 of 3; Philadelphia 2 of 5.
 Goals—New Jersey, Carleo 1-0-0 (39 shots-35 saves), Philadelphia, Mason 0-0 (25-20).
 A—19,801 (19,541). T—2:25.

Blackhawks 3, Stars 2 (SO)
 Chicago 1 0 1 0-2
 Dallas 0 0 2-0
 First Period—1, Chicago, Daley 1 (Seabrook, Sharp), 19:16.
 Second Period—2, Dallas, Keith 1 (Hemsky, Spezza), 10:13 (pp.); 3, Dallas, Sakin (Garbutt, Roussio), 15:04.
 Third Period—4, Chicago, Sharp 1 (Keith, Kane), 11:10 (pp).
 Shots on goal—Chicago 3-8-14-26; Dallas 16-9-19-34.
 Power-play opportunities—Chicago 1 of 5; Dallas 1 of 6.
 Goals—Chicago, Crawford 1-0-0 (34 shots-32 saves), Dallas, Lehtonen 0-0 (34 shots-32 saves).
 A—18,768 (18,532). T—2:44.

Penguins 6, Ducks 4
 Anaheim 1 2 1-4
 Pittsburgh 2 1 1-2
 First Period—1, Pittsburgh, Hornqvist 1 (Crosby), 5:16; 2, Pittsburgh, Crosby (Kunitz, Maatta), 7:22; 3, Pittsburgh, Dupuis 1 (Maatta, Malkin), 12:24; 4, Anaheim, Kesler 1 (Getzlaf, Vanatten), 14:22 (pp).
 Second Period—5, Anaheim, Perry 1 (Kesler, Vanatten), 12:17 (pp); 7, Pittsburgh, Crosby 2 (Dupuis, Hornqvist), 17:34 (pp).
 Third Period—1, Pittsburgh, Little 1 (Maatta, Dupuis), 18:28.
 Shots on goal—Pittsburgh, Sutter 1 (Dupuis), 10:1 (sh); 10, Anaheim, Perry 1 (Kesler, Vanatten), 15:47 (pp).
 Missed Penalty
 Sutter—Thompson, ANA, 11:33 second.
 Shots on goal—Anaheim 10-8-11-29; Pittsburgh 10-21-8-39.
 Goals—Pittsburgh, Little 1 of 4; Pittsburgh 1 of 4.
 Power-play opportunities—Anaheim 3 (9:55-23 saves), Pittsburgh, Fleury 1-0-0 (29-25).
 A—18,633 (18,387). T—2:35.

Flames 5, Oilers 2
 Calgary 2 0 3-5
 Edmonton 1 1 0-2
 First Period—1, Calgary, Raymond 1 (Gordano, Colborne), 3:16; 2, Calgary, Raymond 3 (Colborne, Hudler), 14:42; 7, Calgary, Brodie (Glencross, Backlund), 12:59 (pp).
 Second Period—4, Edmonton, Hall 1 (Nugent-Hopman, Schultz), 11:25 (pp).
 Third Period—5, Calgary, Raymond 3 (Colborne, Hudler), 14:42; 7, Calgary, Brodie (Glencross, Backlund), 12:59 (pp).
 Shots on goal—Calgary 7-14-15-26; Edmonton 11-15-40.
 Power-play opportunities—Calgary 1 (4:05-21 saves), Edmonton, Scrivens 0-0 (40-37).
 Goals—Calgary, Ramo 1-0-0 (40 shots-38 saves), Edmonton, Scrivens 0-0 (40-37).
 A—16,839 (16,839). T—2:25.
 Eds score a change second assist on 2nd goal.

Jets 6, Coyotes 2
 Winnipeg 4 1 1-5
 Phoenix 1 1 0-2
 First Period—1, Winnipeg, Little 1 (Ladd, 7:00); 2, Phoenix, Boedker 1 (Doan, Ekman-Larsen), 7:38; 3, Winnipeg, Wheeler (Ernstson, Boppan), 8:33; 4, Winnipeg, Wheeler 2 (Bogosian, Ernstson), 9:55; 5, Winnipeg, Stuart 1 (Schiefel, Perreault), 14:11.
 Second Period—1, Winnipeg, Byrum (Schiefel, Perreault), 14:11.
 Third Period—1, Winnipeg, Little 2 (Parker, 11:25); 3, Phoenix, Harzall 1 (Michelek, Erat), 8:25.
 Shots on goal—Winnipeg 16-8-3-27; Phoenix 8-9-11-28.
 Power-play opportunities—Winnipeg 0 of 5; Phoenix 0 of 3.
 Goals—Winnipeg, Pavelec 1-0-0 (28 shots-23 saves), Phoenix, Smith 0-0 (27-21).
 A—17,125 (17,125). T—2:27.

Blackhawks 3, Stars 2 (SO)
 Chicago 1 0 1 0-2
 Dallas 0 0 2-0
 First Period—1, Chicago, Daley 1 (Seabrook, Sharp), 19:16.
 Second Period—2, Dallas, Keith 1 (Hemsky, Spezza), 10:13 (pp.); 3, Dallas, Sakin (Garbutt, Roussio), 15:04.
 Third Period—4, Chicago, Sharp 1 (Keith, Kane), 11:10 (pp).
 Shots on goal—Chicago 3-8-14-26; Dallas 16-9-19-34.
 Power-play opportunities—Chicago 1 of 5; Dallas 1 of 6.
 Goals—Chicago, Crawford 1-0-0 (34 shots-32 saves), Dallas, Lehtonen 0-0 (34 shots-32 saves).
 A—18,768 (18,532). T—2:44.

Red Wings 2, Bruins 1
 Boston 0 0 1-1
 Detroit 1 0 0-1
 First Period—1, Boston, Bergeron 1, 12:00.
 Second Period—2, Detroit, Abdelkader 1 (Franzen, DeKeyser), 13:23; 2, Detroit, Nyquist (Heim, Franzen), 14:46 (pp).
 Shots on goal—Boston 14-46-17; Detroit 10-10-14-24.
 Power-play opportunities—Boston 0 of 4; Detroit 1 of 4.
 Goals—Boston, Rask 1-1-0 (24 shots-20 saves), Detroit, Howard 1-0-0 (17-16).
 A—20,027 (20,066). T—2:27.

MLB PLAYOFFS

Power surge

3B Carpenter leads suddenly hard-hitting Cards into NLCS

By R.B. FALLSTROM

The Associated Press

ST. LOUIS — Matt Carpenter became a high-end leadoff man because of his smarts, production and ability to work counts.

Now, add bat to be feared.

The lefty swinging third baseman led the St. Louis Cardinals' sudden power surge in the NL Division Series, ending some of the chatter about the team's season-long, long-ball shortage.

The Cardinals hit 105 homers during the season, second-fewest in the majors ahead of only the cross-state Royals, also still playing this October. St. Louis belted seven against the Dodgers, with Carpenter connecting in three straight games.

The homers accounted for 13 of the Cardinals' 18 runs in the four-game series.

"Yeah, we've heard a lot about that this season, the lack of homers," manager Mike Matheny said. "We've got guys who can do it but we're still not preaching it."

"They're just taking good at-bats, and when they do the ball's going to jump out from time to

Did you know

The St. Louis Cardinals hit only 105 home runs during the regular season, second-fewest in the majors ahead of only the Kansas City Royals. The Royals are facing the Baltimore Orioles — who led the league in home runs — in the ALCS.

SOURCE: The Associated Press

time," Matheny added.

Carpenter totaled eight home runs in the regular season, none of them in consecutive games, before joining Albert Pujols as the lone Cardinals player to homer in three successive postseason games. The feat is all the more



JEFF ROBERSON/AP

The Cardinals' Matt Carpenter is a high-end leadoff man because of his smarts, production and ability to work counts, not for taking pitchers deep. The lefty third baseman connected for three homers against the Dodgers in the NLDS, however, contributing to a recent St. Louis power surge in which 13 of the Cardinals' 18 runs scored in the four-game series came on home runs.

exceptional given all three came in lefty-lefty matchups.

Carpenter led the Cardinals with seven RBIs in the series. He said the key is staying in there to be able to reach the breaking balls heading for the other side of the plate.

Carpenter was a first-time All-Star in 2013 and led the majors in runs (126), hits (199), doubles (55) and multihit games (63). His signature hit came in the NLCS Game 6 clincher, when he doubled off Kershaw to end an 11-pitch at-bat and start the go-ahead rally.

His numbers fell off across the board a bit this year but he again was an All-Star and led the NL with 95 walks while batting .272 with a .375 on-base percentage.

"He doesn't get intimidated by a situation or by the circumstances that he's in," Matheny said.

‘Quirky’ Pence thrives in strangeness of October

By JANIE MCMAULEY

The Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — As quirky as Hunter Pence is, this time he really was off the wall.

Tongue wagging, a leaping Pence robbed Washington's Jayson Werth of extra bases, crashing back-first into the right-field fence for one of the defining defensive plays so far this postseason.

‘Looking at the picture, that’s what I think is really awesome. ... Sharing a moment, I think my favorite part of what I saw of the clip was the fans’ reaction.’

Hunter Pence, Giants' outfielder on his leaping catch against the Nationals during the 6th inning of Game 4 of the NLDS

Pence is thrilled a bunch of San Francisco fans got a close-up view of the grab. Several of them were standing just a few feet behind him in the fenced archedway at AT&T Park on Tuesday night as the Giants closed out the Nationals in the NL Division Series.

"Looking at the picture, that's what I think is really awesome," Pence said. "I'm like, 'I wonder if any of these people get to see this picture?' I hope that they do. It's really cool to them. Sharing a moment, I think my favorite part of what I saw of the clip was the fans' reaction. I'm very

grateful to be a part of that."

On the road, the fans flock to him, too, albeit to playfully mock him.

At Citi Field in New York, the Mets' crowd poked fun at him at every chance, waving signs such as "Hunter Pence Can't Parallel Park" or "Hunter Pence Eats Pizza With A Fork."

With that odd throwing motion and unconventional stance and swing, Pence is an easy target. Then again, a ball he hit during the Giants' run to the 2012 World Series championship was something so strange, no one had seen anything like it.

The ball came off Pence's broken bat three times on a single swing and changed direction for a key two-run double in a 9-0 victory against St. Louis in the Game 7 NL Championship Series clincher.

These days, with another NLCS matchup against the Cardinals on deck, Pence isn't getting pensive.

"Everything that's happened in the past, it's done, it's history," he said. "So, this is a new and separate experience in and of itself. It's a tremendous honor and a privilege to take the field with these guys."

Pence often gathers his teammates together to let them know how proud he is to be part of this group for another special October.

When the Giants sealed a spot in the NL wildcard game, Pence provided an expletive-filled speech — he later apologized for the salty language getting aired — congratulating the Giants for hanging in through the injuries, doubts and skids. He also asked the home fans if they wanted another game by the bay, receiving a resounding "YES! YES! YES!" — inspired by former WWE champion Daniel Bryan — that has become the club's postseason mantra.

"Any player will say that there's no accomplishment greater than what you do as a team in the postseason," Pence said. "It's an honor to play for this city, these guys."



GENE J. PUSKAR/AP

With his odd throwing motion and unconventional stance and swing, San Francisco outfielder Hunter Pence has become an easy target for opposing fans to mock. But no one is laughing at Pence and the Giants now, not after they upset the heavily favored Washington Nationals to advance to their second NLCS in three years.

SPORTS

**Gurley suspended**

Georgia RB may have violated NCAA rules | **College football, Page 27**

NFL



PATRIC SCHNEIDER/AP

Indianapolis running back Ahmad Bradshaw (44) is hit by Houston defenders Jared Crick (93) and D.J. Swearinger during the second quarter of Thursday's game in Houston. Indianapolis jumped out to a 24-0 lead after one quarter, but had to hold on for a 33-28 victory.

Five things to know

Colts hold off Texans

Indianapolis squanders big lead, survives rally

BY KRISTIE RIEKEN
The Associated Press

HOUSTON — Andrew Luck tried not to make too much of the Indianapolis Colts' victory over the Houston Texans.

Yet the quarterback couldn't help but be a little excited after the 33-28 victory Thursday night gave Indianapolis first place in the AFC South.

"I realize it's only Week 6 so it's not a Super Bowl, and it's not anything too, too special," he said.

"But to beat a real darn-good football

Inside:

■ Patriots, not Pegulas, really own Bills, Page 29

team like that is huge for us."

The Colts (4-2) led 24-0 after one quarter, but allowed the Texans (3-3) to cut it to five points early in the fourth on J.J. Watt's fumble return for a touchdown.

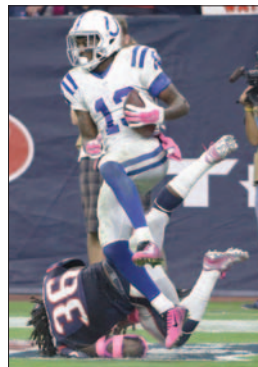
The Texans had two opportunities to

take the lead late, but the Colts recovered fumbles by Andre Johnson and Ryan Fitzpatrick in the last five minutes.

"You can finally start to see the type of defense that we envisioned a long time ago to go out there and do that week in and week out," Colts coach Chuck Pagano said.

Luck finished with 370 yards passing and three touchdowns for his fourth consecutive 300-yard passing game. T.Y. Hilton had a career-high 223 yards receiving with a touchdown.

The Texans were driving with less than
SEE HOLD ON PAGE 29



DAVID J. PHILLIP/AP

Indianapolis' T.Y. Hilton, top, catches a touchdown pass as Houston defender D.J. Swearinger winds up on the ground.

Carpenter, Cardinals find home run stroke
MLB playoffs, Page 31

Kyle Busch earns pole for Sprint Cup race
Auto racing, Page 25